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FILM

ARAB TIMES

NO. 7790

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1990 / RAJAB 15, 1410 AH

Amir in Oman for talks on Jewish influx

Joint economic projects and ways to boost trade will be discussed

MUSCAT, Feb 10, (Agencies): HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, arrived today for three days of consultations with Sultan Qaboos on efforts to curb Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel and other issues.

The Oman News Agency said the Amir, accompanied by a delegation including the finance minister, was greeted at the airport by Qaboos as a 21-gun salute boomed out.

Official sources speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the issue of the expected flood of Soviet Jews to Israel in the next few years

was one of the top priorities in the two leaders' talks.

Qaboos is the current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council which also includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

The Amir is currently chairman of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference, an umbrella organisation for the world's estimated one billion Muslims.

In a recent message, the Amir castigated both the Soviet Union as well as the United States for

allowing the Jewish emigration to Israel.

There has been a furor in the Arab and Islamic world since Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said earlier this month that he expected hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews to settle in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

These areas, seized by Israel in 1967, roughly encompass the Palestinian state proclaimed by the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile, in 1988.

The expected exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel follows Moscow's loosening of emigration re-

strictions, and the tightening of US immigration laws.

The Arabs are angry that the United States, which has traditional close links with the GCC countries, has restricted entry visas for Soviet Jews at a time when the Soviets have opened their doors.

The Kuwaiti and Omani rulers also head GCC efforts to break the deadlock in peace talks between Iran and Iraq following the August 1988

(Continued on Page 8)



HH the Amir leaving for Oman. HH the Crown Prince, cabinet ministers and other high officials bade him farewell.

Battle in East Beirut resumes

BEIRUT, Feb 10, (Agencies): Rival Christian forces duelled with howitzers and machine guns in Lebanon's Christian enclave today, violating a shaky ceasefire in a 12-day power struggle and leaving routing corpses in sniper-infested streets.

A French envoy, meanwhile, said he was unable to work out a settlement to the intra-Christian conflict between the forces of Gen. Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia.

The Voice of Lebanon, a Christian radio station, reported a mutiny among Aoun's 15,000 troops as they and Geagea's militia appeared geared for another round of all-out fighting.

"All my efforts did not produce any result," said French humanitarian aid minister Bernard Kouchner, who has been in Beirut since Monday.

"I'll leave for France today ... the Lebanese should do more to help resolve their problems," Kouchner said after talks with President Elias Hrawi and Premier Salim Hoss in West Beirut.

The two sides clashed during the night and early morning with machine guns in several districts of East Beirut. They also exchanged howitzer shells in the mountains northeast of the capital.

A police spokesman said three people were killed and four wounded in the shelling before it subsided into intermittent exchange around 10 am (0800 GMT).

The casualties raised the overall toll from the 12-day confrontation to 433 killed and 1,684 wounded in the bloodiest intra-Christian confrontation since the civil war broke out.

Shortly before dusk, Aoun's Radio Lebanon said Geagea's gunners were shelling the general's defence ministry in Yarza, east of Beirut.

Hundreds of civilians fled the Christian enclave to safe areas in West Beirut, south, east and north Lebanon.

The police spokesman said the situation in the Christian enclave "does not indicate that a ceasefire's going to hold."

The Voice of Lebanon, mouthpiece of the anti-Aoun Phalange Party, broadcast a statement by Col. Paul Faris announcing the mutiny in the general's army.

Faris declared the creation of the "neutral army forces" with headquarters in the coastal town of Amchit, north of Beirut, which is controlled by Geagea's forces.

He called on "yellow soldiers ... to refuse Aoun's orders and immediately join the ranks of the neutral army forces. Leave Aoun's army now before it's too late."

Shortly after broadcasting Faris' communiqué, Voice of Lebanon said it has received calls from several army units declaring support for the mutiny.

Aoun's command, in a statement, said Faris was "a mutineer who had joined the gunmen a while ago and is wanted by justice."

Lebanon's Parliamentary Speaker met Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam today.

Weather

TEMPERATURE will be slightly below normal with moderate north-westerly wind.

State of sea: Moderate.

High water: 12.00 am, 7.00 pm.

Low water: 8.00 am, 7.00 pm.

Sunrise: 6.1 am.

Sunset: 5.34 pm.

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 18°C 64°F

Ahmad: 17°C 63°F

Falaka: 17°C 63°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 5°C 41°F

Ahmad: 10°C 50°F

Falaka: 8°C 46°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 78 percent

Ahmad: 66 percent

Falaka: 73 percent

Mandela free today

Whites cry 'hang him'

Blacks jubilant; Tutu shouts 'hurrah'

CAPE TOWN, Feb 10, (Agencies): Nelson Mandela, the symbol of nonyielding black resistance to apartheid, will go free tomorrow after more than 27 years in prison, President F.W. de Klerk announced today.

"Tomorrow will bring us to the end of a long chapter," De Klerk told a news conference.

He said he had conferred with Mandela last night and was convinced the black leader was "committed to a peaceful solution" to the racial conflict that has plagued South Africa for

decades.

The President also said the 3-1/2-year-old state of emergency would be lifted in a few weeks if no further unrest accompanies Mandela's release, and he pledged to negotiate the possible release of remaining political prisoners.

Mandela, in recent talks with the government, had demanded freedom for all political prisoners and an end to the emergency rules.

Under the remaining restrictions, police can still detain suspects for up to six months without charge, ban protests, and ban journalists or others from protests or areas of unrest.

Rebels take Massawa

NAIROBI, Feb 10, (Reuters): Rebels in Ethiopia's northern province Eritrea said they captured the strategic Red Sea port Massawa today after launching a major offensive two days ago.

"The entire town is under the control of the EPLF," Yemane Gabre Meskel, a spokesman for the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) told Reuters by telephone from London.

"We received the news about an hour ago, but have no more details for the time being," he added.

This is the first time in 29 years of civil war in which separatist rebels have claimed to capture Eritrea's main port.

DAY BY DAY

CAMPING obviously means enjoying the outdoors away from modern amenities and disturbances.

Unfortunately, once again the tents parked along the motorways is rather a strange sight and from the safety aspect, some of them are pegged close to high voltage electricity posts.

Is there any reason as to why the government cannot determine ideal camping grounds — away from motorways, high voltage electrical poles and the din of everyday life — all of which camping is intended to avoid?

I am afraid that if "better minds" do not prevail, we may end up seeing tents erected on the motorways themselves.

Zahed Matar

Superpowers to sign chem accord

MOSCOW, Feb 10, (Reuters): The United States and the Soviet Union said today they intended to sign an agreement at a June summit to destroy most of their chemical weapons.

"The sides will work out a bilateral agreement on reciprocal obligations, including inter alia the destruction of the bulk of their CW (chemical weapon) stocks to equal low levels," the two countries' said in a joint statement.

"They will proceed with the objective of completing and signing such an agreement at the June 1990 summit meeting." (See Page 7)



No compromise

It's war of freedom: Benazir

ISLAMABAD, Feb 10, (Agencies): Pakistan does not want war with India over the Muslim uprising in Indian-controlled Kashmir, but will never compromise on the rights of Kashmiris to choose their own future, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto vowed today.

"We do not want war and we do not want to create a war psychosis in the nation," she told a specially-

convened joint session of Parliament.

Benazir issued veiled threats to India and condemned New Delhi's crackdown on Muslim separatists.

Making her first public appearance since the birth of her second child on Jan 25, Benazir said opting for peace did not mean Pakistan would be intimidated or abandon its support for the rights of Kashmiris.

(Continued on Page 5)

Palace attacker killed

Mubarak astonished

CAIRO, Feb 10, (Agencies): President Mubarak telephoned condolences today to the father of a teenager fatally shot by guards after deliberately crashing his car into the gates of a presidential palace.

Mubarak was in the southern city of Aswan last night when Adham Sohaib Mohammed Hafez, a 17-year-old high school student and son of an appellate court judge, smashed the Fiat he was driving into the iron gate of Uruba palace.

An Interior Ministry statement said Hafez climbed from the car and shot at palace guards with a pistol, injuring two, but was cut down in a fusillade of return fire and killed.

The government statement said palace guards told investigators that Hafez appeared "abnormal and unbalanced" when he got out of his car after ramming the gate.

It also quoted Hafez's mother as saying her son was "very disturbed" over a family problem when he left home shortly before the attack. He threatened to commit "a terrible act" unless the family met his demands, the statement said.

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ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

Both the Second and Third Full House prizes have been won. Fakhruddin Barkat Ali will receive KD 60 for the Second and Ritu Ray will get KD 40 for the Third Full House. The answer to the clue is 90.

First Prize
Toyota Corolla

and many other prizes



10th Gulf Football Championship Quiz Competition

TOYOTA COROLLA 1.3 LITRE ENGINE

PRESENTED BY:

Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer & Sons Est.



Details inside page

ARAB TIMES

Opposition plans day of protest over Karachi shootings

KARACHI, Feb 10, (AP): Pakistan's hostile opposition yesterday called for a national day of protest over this week's shooting deaths in the southern port city of Karachi.

Most of Karachi's 8 million people remained under army control yesterday after four days of bloody clashes between supporters of the ruling Pakistan People's Party and the Mohajir Qaumi Movement, representing Muslim immigrants to Pakistan following independence in 1947.

The government briefly relaxed a 24-hour

curfew and police officials, who declined identification, said it passed without incident.

As many as 60 people have died since Monday in violent clashes between the police and sharpshooters belonging to rival political parties.

Wednesday was the bloodiest day, when an MQM call for a supposedly peaceful strike turned violent. Forty-one people were killed when sharpshooters on rooftops clashed with police.

In a prepared release Pakistan's combined opposition said the day of protest set for Feb 17 was "against the unprecedented barbaric action planned and monitored by the ruling party."

Last year some of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's more formidable opponents formed an alliance called the combined opposition parties, representing right-wing, center and religious parties. A handful of independent National Assembly members also belong to the alliance.

Last October the MQM added its name to the combined opposition.

The Indian immigrant party, whose support is limited to Pakistan's southern province of Sind, went from being a key ally of Benazir's to her archenemy.

The MQM, which virtually controls the province's urban centres of Karachi and Hyderabad, abandoned a fragile alliance with Benazir's party, which dominates the Sind assembly.

In November Benazir's party narrowly survived a no-confidence vote after the MQM took its critical 14 National Assembly seats over to the opposition's camp.

Benazir's opposition has blamed her party for the recent wave of violence in Karachi.

"(A) government which would massacre its own people has no right to rule the country even for one single day," said the opposition's release.

The ruling party blamed the MQM.

The MQM has asked President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to intervene and invoke a state of emergency which could dissolve the Sind assembly.

Some political observers, who asked not to be identified, speculated that the opposition strategy is to keep the pressure on Benazir's government and eventually force the President to question her ability to govern.

During 11 years of military rule Pakistan's President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq amended the constitution to give the President sweeping powers.

Britain on full security alert

Rushdie plea for dialogue

LONDON, Feb 10, (Agencies): Britain imposed a full security alert in response to Tehran yesterday again ordering the death of Salman Rushdie, and an intermediary said the author of "The Satanic Verses" had pleaded from his hideout for a dialogue with the country's Muslims.

Officials said military bases and airports were ordered on full alert and security tightened around the US embassy in London in line with a US State Department warning of a "high level of activity" by the Hezbollah Islamic extremists group.

Washington on Thursday declared its concern "that terrorists may be planning an operation against US interests in Western Europe" to mark the anniversary of the 1979 dissolution of the government of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi.

India sees no need for war

Explosions in Kashmir

(Continued from Page 1)

National Assembly and Senate that Pakistan wanted a peaceful settlement, but declared Pakistan ready and able to defend itself against any threat.

"We know how to defend our freedom and independence," she said. "We have the will and courage, and we have the capability to defend our motherland."

"This revolution has not come from outside, it has come from the heart of the people," she said. "It is a war of freedom."

Shahzada said India of blaming Pakistan "in an attempt to externalise and divert the issue."

She stressed the nation's support for a 1949 United Nations resolution that called for a plebiscite in the disputed mountain region to allow Kashmiris to decide whether they want to be ruled by India or Pakistan.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan opened the joint session with a resolution calling on India to stop "barbaric attempts to suppress the demand of the people of the state of Jammu and Kashmir for self-determination."

Pakistan has sent emissaries abroad to build support and the resolution urged the government to intensify these efforts.

Before the debate, Yaqub Khan and the head of military intelligence, retired Lieutenant-General Shamsur Rehman Kalha, briefed members of Parliament in a closed session.

One opposition member said Kalha raised fears India could be involved in subversive within Pakistan.

National Assembly opposition leader Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi accused the government of being lukewarm about Kashmir in the past, and asked it to canvas support at every world forum.

"But for God's sake don't be complacent. Move fast. India has already

taken a lead in diplomatic efforts," he said.

Senator Qazi Hussain Ahmad, leader of the right-wing Jamiat-i-Islami party, urged Islamabad to make nuclear weapons to face the threat of war from Iran.

Muslims consider insulting.

"Mercenaries who try by means of cultural and propaganda conspiracies such as writing the blasphemous book 'The Satanic Verses' are trying ... to weaken Islam," Tehran radio quoted Khamenei as saying.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher denounced Iran's reaffirmation of its death sentence on Rushdie, and a friend of the novelist said he thought Rushdie was prepared for dialogue with Muslim leaders if they rejected the threat.

A statement from Mrs Thatcher's office said she condemned the renewal of the threat and believed it was "much to be regretted."

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd later added: "It's very difficult to imagine us having reasonable relationships with Iran, which I would like us to have, so long as this absurd sentence on a British citizen remains."

The Indian delegation has asked for talks next week with Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, chief prosecutor Lars Ringberg, the Swedish National Bank and representatives of Swedish arms manufacturer Bofors, daily Dagens Nyheter reported.

The report said the Indian group included Bhure Lal, personal adviser to India's prime minister as well as chief prosecutor Arun Jaitley and representatives of India's Central Bureau of Investigation.

The group was to come to Sweden from Switzerland where it has held talks with Swiss justice ministry officers on ways to obtain details of bank accounts involved in an alleged return commission affair involving the procurement of artillery guns for the Indian army.

Indian claims that 14 government officials received payments totaling some \$40 million for awarding contracts worth \$1.3 billion to Bofors, the big Swedish arms manufacturer.

The 1981 contract for 400 artillery pieces was the largest such contract ever signed by India.

On Jan 26, Switzerland accepted an Indian request to require four banks in Zurich and Geneva to freeze all and any deposits held by officials named by the Indian government.

Dagens Nyheter said six accounts had then been frozen, of which five allegedly still contained funds from Bofors.

The Swiss government last week accepted a formal Indian request for legal assistance in obtaining banking information regarding the various accounts.

But strict bank secrecy laws in Switzerland make disclosures difficult and the process can often last years.

The Indian government has also asked for legal aid from the Swedish government, which has not yet agreed to the request.

A Swedish investigation into the bribery affair was closed in early 1988 for lack of evidence.

As the anniversary of the Khomeini's death threat approached, Rushdie issued a plea from his hiding for tolerance from Muslims, while maintaining he has done nothing wrong.

"We still condemn (the death sentence) in the strongest terms," said Bob Gregory, spokesman for Viking Penguin, Rushdie's publishers. "We are appalled. I just think it is very bad. But it is very nearly 'what's new?' this doesn't change anything."

As the anniversary of the Khomeini's death threat approached, Rushdie issued a plea from his hiding for tolerance from Muslims, while maintaining he has done nothing wrong.

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"Many of us, who have spent all our lives in the Congress, thought that after the debacle that the party suffered in the Lok Sabha elections, there will be a change in its functioning. But it has become worse. Like the Bourbons, Rajiv has learnt nothing and forgotten nothing. He has become more obsessed with his own importance and demands greater servility than ever before," Zakaria said.

According to him, the result was the party was disintegrating and there was no hope for its survival now. "Rajiv by his whims and caprices has not only lost the government but by exploiting its goodwill destroyed the very fibre of more than a hundred-



Checking at a Karachi road block

Armed Pakistani soldiers check a car at a road block before allowing it in curfew-bound areas in Karachi. At least 67 people were killed in massive anti-government protests on Feb 7. (Reuters wirephoto)

Manila rules out pardon for Honasan

MANILA, Feb 10, (UPI): Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos today ruled out amnesty for ex-army Col. Gregorio Honasan and other leaders of the bloody Dec 1 coup attempt, but said the military was willing to consider clemency for lower-ranking mutineers if they surrender.

Ramos said during a news conference the government will be firm in dealing with the coup leaders and add amnesty for the mutineers will be granted on a "case-to-case" basis.

He said Honasan, alleged leader of the uprising that nearly toppled President Corazon Aquino, and other top rebel officers have been charged or are facing investigation and are not eligible for amnesty.

Soldiers who followed orders based on false information and whose participation in the rebellion was light are qualified for the amnesty programme and will be returned to their post.

Ramos said: "Insofar as military rebels are concerned, the Department of National Defense and the Armed Forces of the Philippines pursuant to presidential policy shall continue to be very firm recognising that the threat from coup plotters, coup leaders and coup participants is a very, very dangerous one," Ramos said.

He said some military rebels have signified their intention to surrender under the amnesty programme.

Aquino issued an executive order in December 1986 offering amnesty to the communist New People's Army and the Muslim separatist Moro National Liberation Front. The order has been expanded to include mutineers involved in coup attempts.

At least 119 people were killed and 600 wounded in the December uprising — the sixth and most serious in Aquino's nearly four years in power.

Six coup leaders of a military list of 15 "most wanted" leaders of the December uprising have already been captured this year, but the key officers, including Honasan, are still at large and have threatened to mount another coup.

■ One man was killed and more than 18,500 people made homeless on a central Philippine island when a strong earthquake hit the area, a spokesman for the government's disaster centre said today.

Mario Gatchalian, spokesman for the office of civil defence, said the island of Bohol was hardest hit because it was near the epicenter of the earthquake. Thursday, which measured a preliminary 6 on the Richter scale.

Sketchy reports said one man died in the town of Valencia on Bohol, about 655 km (401 miles) southeast of Manila because of the earthquake, but did not explain the cause of his death, Gatchalian said.

■ The United States delivered 191 troop carriers along with anti-tank weapons, rifles, machine-guns and night vision equipment to the Philippine military to aid in its battle against leftist insurgents, officials said today.

Col. Edgardo Camina, military ordinance chief, said the shipment was part of the foreign military sales credit that Washington agreed to provide under an arrangement covering its key military bases in the Philippines.

Camina said the shipment includes 4,000 M-1 Garand rifles, 6,000 carbines, 180 recoilless rifles and 661 M-60 machine guns and infra-red goggles for Sikorsky helicopter pilots and anti-terrorist squads.

some time the deputy leader of the party in Parliament. He travelled to several countries as special envoy of late prime minister Indira Gandhi.

Zakaria had meetings with Singh and Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed yesterday.

His resignation from the Congress comes on the heels of similar decisions by some other party leaders. Those who have quit in recent days include former Bihar chief minister Abdul Ghafur, late prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri's son Sunil Shastri, former Maharashtra chief minister N.K. Bhosle and former Maharashtra deputy chief minister N.K. Tirkunde.

Bofors probbers to go to Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Feb 10, (UPI): An Indian government delegation was to travel to Sweden from Switzerland on Monday to press for Swedish assistance in obtaining evidence in the Bofors arms procurement affair, media reports said here.

The Indian delegation has asked for talks next week with Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, chief prosecutor Lars Ringberg, the Swedish National Bank and representatives of Swedish arms manufacturer Bofors, daily Dagens Nyheter reported.

The report said the Indian group included Bhure Lal, personal adviser to India's prime minister as well as chief prosecutor Arun Jaitley and representatives of India's Central Bureau of Investigation.

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A Swedish investigation into the bribery affair was closed in early 1988 for lack of evidence.

"At the moment, or more than nine hours after the eruption, sand and ash were still pouring over Bilar and Kediri cities," Sergeant Ratio told United Press International, adding that as 3,300 villagers were evacuated to safer places. (UPI)

The four detainees are suspected of delivering high-tech Western products to the Soviets since mid-1988, the office said in a statement.

Political parties were banned by Nepal's king, regarded by many Nepalis as a demi-god. (Reuters)

Volcano kills 5 in Java: Mount Keduh in East Java erupted yesterday killing at least five people and seriously injuring 19 others, police officials said.

The 5,679-foot (1,731-m) volcano erupted at about 2:00 pm Saturday sending sand and ash into villages in the surrounding areas.

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Galileo spacecraft swoops past Venus

PASADENA, California, Feb 10, (AP): The Galileo spaceship swooped past Venus early today, and the cloud-shrouded planet acted as a gravity slingshot to help hurl the craft toward its 1995 rendezvous with Jupiter.

Engineers at the US space agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory received a radio signal confirming that the 2.8-tonne spacecraft made its closest approach to Venus at 0539 GMT, cruising 10,028 miles (16,138

kilometres) above the planet's hellishly hot surface.

"We have just flown through our closest approach point to Venus," said Bill O'Neill, science and mission design manager. "The greatest challenge of getting Galileo to Jupiter has been..."

Four hours before the close encounter, radio signals received on Earth confirmed the spacecraft computer ordered Galileo's

infrared light sensor to start observing Venus. The instrument was looking for the glow of the hot lower atmosphere backlighting cooler clouds overhead, O'Neill said.

That started an eight-hour period of intensive photography and measurements, including a photographic search for lightning. Earlier yesterday, Galileo studied dust particles and magnetic fields in space, and measured Venusian atmospheric tem-

peratures.

"The Venus encounter is our first major milestone in the mission," said Galileo project scientist Torrence Johnson. "After the encounter, we have gained enough energy out of this celestial billiard shot to get the energy we need to make it all the way to Jupiter."

The power the spacecraft gains in the flyby is triple the energy of its propellant

supply, said mission director Neal Ausman.

The \$1.35 billion mission will let Galileo examine Earth, its moon and one or two asteroids before the spacecraft separates into an orbiter and a small probe in July 1995. In December 1995, they arrive at Jupiter, the solar system's largest planet, after a 2.4-billion-mile (3.8-billion-kilometre) trip, including 182 million miles (292 million kilometres) to reach Venus.

Galileo was deployed from the space shuttle Atlantis last 18.

Venus circles the sun between the orbits of Earth and Mercury, the closest planet to the sun. Acid-laden clouds extend 40 miles (64 kilometres) above the surface, trapping heat in a runaway "greenhouse effect" that raised surface temperatures to 900 degrees Fahrenheit (482 Celsius). Atmospheric pressure is 90 times that on Earth.



This is the way you gotta do it

Sylvester Stallone (right) demonstrates to heavyweight champion Tonyony Morrison how he wants him to move during the filming of the

main fight scene in Rocky V at Philadelphia's civic centre Feb 9. (Reuter wirephoto)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Indianapolis, Indiana: Singers Willie Nelson, John Cougar Mellencamp and Neil Young are preparing for the fourth Farm Aid Concert, scheduled for April in Indianapolis.

Mellencamp, a native of Seymour in southern Indiana, said that raising money is important but so is creating the awareness of "how important the family farm is to us."

Nelson said Farm Aid TV will focus on the ability of farmers to provide safe food at reasonable prices.

Nelson and Mellencamp have raised more than \$12 million for the American farmers in three previous concerts.

The first farm aid concert was held in Illinois in 1985. (AP)

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Black Russian caviar is not kosher, but the Technion Institute in Haifa says it has developed a caviar substitute that is.

The tasty Russian variety is off limits to observant Jews because it is made from sturgeon fish, which do not have scales. Kosher dietary rules ban the eating of fish without scales.

The new product, which took three years to develop, is made from a kosher fish, Technion said in a statement.

It also will sell at a bargain price. Technion said, Russian caviar sells for about \$48 an ounce on world markets, and the kosher substitute will go for about \$2 it said.

The new product is reported to look and taste like the real thing. Martin McDonald, a chef at the Dan Panorama Hotel in Tel Aviv who taste-tested the new caviar, proclaimed it "as close to the real thing as you can get." (AP)

LAUSANNE, Switzerland: A prisoner nearing the end of a five-year jail term for theft escaped after a prison official allowed him to visit a prostitute, authorities said Wednesday.

The unidentified Yugoslav national had been given an eight-

Cancer Davis in hospital

LOS ANGELES, Feb 10, (Reuter): Entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. was treated last night for a recurrence of throat cancer, hospital officials said.

The child boarder at Mayflower school bus Friday for Ashland Elementary School in Midtown Kansas City, Mo., when the girl did not return Friday afternoon, her mother filed a missing person report with police, who began a search.

Police found the girl early Sunday in the Mayflower school bus.

Temperatures fell to 24 degrees Saturday night.

The bus driver was fired for failing to inspect the bus before leaving the route, said Kyle Martin, spokesman for Mayflower Contract Services. (AP) ***

KANSAS CITY, Missouri: A kindergarten pupil who fell asleep on the way home from school was hospitalized with frostbite after spending nearly two nights in a school bus waiting for help, authorities said.

Andrea Tavel was in fair condition Sunday night when children's Mercy Hospital, where she was recovering from frostbite to her hands, took her legal police said.

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SYDNEY, Australia: A man claims he rode 450 miles (724 kilometers) on the back of a stingray to safety after his boat capsized three weeks ago, a radio station reports.

Radio Vanuatu said Wednesday that 18-year-old Louis Stevens washed up Wednesday in New Caledonia. It said Stevens' boat capsized January 15 while he and a friend were on a fishing trip off the Pacific Island nation of Vanuatu.

The friend died, and after four days spent drifting with the overturned boat, Stevens decided to try to swim to safety. Radio Vanuatu reported. Despite numerous sharks, a stingray came to Stevens' rescue and carried him on its back for 13 days and nights to New Caledonia, the radio said.

The report could not be confirmed. It said Stevens was weak and recovering in a hospital.

Radio Vanuatu said it was the second time someone had been saved by a fish.

LOS ANGELES: Taxi drivers lacking cleanliness or courtesy will face fines, thanks to a new ordinance.

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley on Monday signed the law calling for \$500 fines to punish cabbies and the city's six taxi companies for behaviour deemed uncouth. The ordinance takes effect March 28.

"I think we now will see a new day in Los Angeles in terms of cab service," Bradley said. He urged disgruntled riders to telephone the department of transportation with complaints.

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US pulls Perrier water off shelves

GREENWICH, Connecticut, Feb 10, (UPI): The Perrier group of America announced yesterday it is recalling its inventory of mineral water in the United States because a "small sample" of bottles tested showed the presence of the poisonous liquid benzene.

Company spokesmen said it was not known where the chemical contamination came from, but it is examining its packaging and distribution process. They said there was no evidence of intentional tainting.

The popular water has only one source, a spring in Vergeze, France, and the French government has certified that it is not contaminated, Perrier officials said the mineral water is bottled only in Vergeze, they said.

Benzene is a clear inflammable poisonous liquid used as a solvent believed to be a cancer causing agent.

Eliane Lazzini, a company spokesman, said she had not heard of anyone getting sick from the upscale drink.

Perrier did not say what prompted the testing of the small sample that is, whether it received word of a possible contamination from a consumer or whether something unusual was detected by company workers during packaging.

However public officials in North Carolina said they found benzene in the mineral water earlier this week when testing the quality of water from their own public supply against the bottled drink.

"We tested some Perrier we collected and did the tests in conjunction with Department of Environmental Health and Natural Resources" state Agriculture Department spokesman Robert Gordon said "the tests that we ran were from 12 to 19 parts (benzene) per billion ppb."

The Environment Protection Agency has established a maximum contamination level of 5 ppb of benzene for public drinking water officials said.

The increased risk of cancer associated with benzene is based on lifetime exposure, state officials said. Tests indicate the presence of benzene in Perrier water for a period of months rather than years, they said.

"We feel like for short term use it would not be a great health risk," Gordon said. "Over a long period it could be greater."

State officials warned its residents yesterday to discontinue consuming the drink.

Perrier said its recall is voluntary.

The company did not say how many bottles were involved in the contamination or testing, and had no reports of contamination anywhere else in the world.

Anti-seizure drug may lower IQs

Be careful, physicians told

BOSTON, Feb 10 (UPI): Young children given a common barbiturate to control fever-induced seizures generally score lower than their peers on intelligence tests, a study concluded.

The drug phenobarbital apparently affects a child's ability to perform well on such tests, and this effect may continue even after the drug is no longer used, researchers reported in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The finding, combined with questions about phenobarbital's effectiveness, led the study's authors to conclude that the drug's disadvantages generally outweighed its benefits.

"We're saying that physicians need to be very, very careful about prescribing it. This doesn't mean that there are not some children who can benefit from phenobarbital. But we need to look hard for alternatives," said Dr Deborah Hirtz of the national institute of neurological disorders and stroke in Bethesda, Maryland, just outside Washington.

Phenobarbital, which can be used as a hypnotic and a sedative, is by far the most common treatment for early childhood seizures that are triggered by high fevers, Hirtz said. Such fevers may affect as many as 4 per cent of babies and toddlers in the United States, she said.

The study compared 108 children in the Seattle area who received phenobarbital daily with 109 children of similar age and background who were not given the drug.

Despite the drug's widespread use, phenobarbital seemed to have little positive effect. There was no significant decrease in seizures among children who received daily doses of phenobarbital, the researchers found.

The children who received daily doses of the drug did, however, have lower intelligence quotients on average than other seizure-prone children who did not receive medication, the researchers found.

The children who received daily doses of the drug did, however, have lower intelligence quotients on average than other seizure-prone children who did not receive medication, the researchers found.

Six months later, after the amount of phenobarbital given the children had been lowered and finally discontinued, the drug group had an average IQ slightly more than five points lower than their counterparts, the researchers found.

The study did not try to explain why phenobarbital might affect IQ. But Hirtz noted previous research involving adults given the drug showed a decline in their performances on tests of concentration and short-term memory.



A sensation

A granddaughter of former US President Dwight Eisenhower married a top Soviet space scientist Friday in a ceremony at the US ambassador's residence in Moscow.

Susan Eisenhower, 38, married Roald Sagdeev, the 57-year-old former head of the space research institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Sagdeev also is a member of the Congress of People's Deputies, the Soviet Parliament.

Tass, the Soviet news agency, described the celebrity wedding as "a sensation." Those who attended the ceremony, which was closed to the media, said the guests included Elena Bonner, widow of Soviet human rights champion Andrei Sakharov, and many Soviet parliamentarians.

After the ceremony, the bride, dressed in a white suit with gold trim, and the groom, in a double-breasted blue suit, cut into a three-tiered wedding cake.

Sagdeev, a physicist, was a close associate of Sakharov and is considered a political reformer. He is well-known in the Soviet Union, and before reforms took hold in the country, his institute had been considered top secret.

The couple first met at the annual Soviet-American Chautauqua conference in the United States in 1987 and saw each other afterwards at several international conferences.

Tass quoted the couple as saying they had not expected quick approval from authorities for their wedding plans but, that the approval in fact came soon, "a fresh indication that times are changing for the better."

The couple previously have said they will live in both countries. (Reuter wirephoto)



Bulging Fergie

The Duchess of York, who is expecting a second child in the upcoming weeks, waves goodbye after watching the finish of British Service International Ski Championships in Megève, France. (Reuter wirephoto)

Boxer Ali's father dead

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky, Feb 10. (Agencies): Cassius Marcus Clay Sr., father of former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali, died at age of 77.

Clay collapsed Thursday as he was walking out of a department store.

Officials said he was dead on arrival at Humana Hospital-suburban, the result of a massive heart attack.

Ali was at his home in Berrien Springs, Michigan, when he learned of his father's death, and flew to Louisville, according to Gene Kilroy, a longtime friend of the former champion and part of Ali's entourage when he fought.

"This is the saddest moment of my life," Kilroy said Ali told him.

"My father was my friend, my first trainer in boxing. He was my pal."

Kilroy said Ali also told him "there isn't a day in my life that I won't be thinking of him."

"I know that's true," Kilroy said from his home in Las Vegas. "I remember how excited he'd get when his parents arrived for one of his fights."

Kilroy recalled that Clay, who was an artist, often painted when he visited his son's training camp in Deer Lake, Pennsylvania.

Clay, a commercial artist, slumped over the wheel of his car as he prepared to go home from his office in an apparent coronary seizure.

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US slipping in science

Report finds number of troubling signs

WASHINGTON, Feb 9, (UPI): The United States' worldwide dominance of science and technology may be slipping as other nations close the gap in areas long considered bastions of US excellence, a report concluded yesterday.

"The United States is strong presently in science and technology. We have been the leader for more than 40 years. And we still are," said Mary Good, chairman of the national science board, which issued the report.

"At the same time the advantage that we had in the past is also gone. History tells us that nations go up and nations go down. But

they truly can go down. If we don't get serious ... there's a real risk of a slow slide toward second-rate status," she told a news conference.

The 401-page "Science and engineering indicators" report concludes, "we need a new national commitment to provide human, financial and physical resources commensurate with the importance of science and technology to America's future."

The report is issued every two years by the policy-making board of the National Science Foundation to help government, industry and academic leaders evaluate science and engineering in the nation based on a variety of

criteria.

Although there were some promising areas, this year's report found a number of troubling signs, including:

■ In 1988, US inventors received 52 per cent of the US patents granted while foreigners received the remaining 48 per cent — the highest share of US patents ever granted to foreigners.

■ While the United States still spends more on research and development than the next four industrialized countries combined, international competitors such as Japan and West Germany spend more in relation to their total gross national product.

Bell Lab confirms new form of matter

NEWARK, New Jersey, Feb 9, (AP): AT&T said that researchers at its Bell Laboratories have confirmed the existence of "quasi-crystals," a new and much-debated form of matter that could be used to improve electronic equipment.

Scientists in university and private research say X-rays and other techniques already have helped prove quasi-crystals exist, but say Bell Labs' research gives the most straightforward description of the matter.

Discovered in 1984, Quasi-crystals have been the focus of some of the most intense study in the scientific community along with superconductivity and cold fusion, say scientists familiar with the subject.

Researchers praised Bell Lab's announcement, but said it could not be considered a breakthrough, as the company claimed.

Paul Horn, director of physical science at International Business Machine's Thomas J. Watson Research Centre in Yorktown, New York, called the development a "nice piece of science." But he said, "It didn't tell us anything we didn't expect."

While research has revealed the presence of quasi-crystals in bulk form, Bell Labs provided the first glimpse of a quasi-crystal surface, helping refute arguments that previous manifestations were a quirk of nature, said Lionel Kimerling, who heads Bell Labs' materials interface research department in Murray Hill, New Jersey, west of Newark.

The company used a scanning-tunnelling microscope, which is exact enough to probe individual atoms. Researchers cut atoms on a plane and used the microscope to move a fine-tipped probe over the surface. The image of each atom was then projected on a television screen, said Kimerling.

"It's the first time that people have used a scanning-tunnelling microscope to get an image of the surface of the material," Horn said. "It confirms what people believed and what people had very good evidence for."

The three states of matter are solid, liquid and gas. The solid state is divided into amorphous — or unorganized — solids such as glass, and crystal, which includes rocks and metals. The quasi-crystal — in this case composed of an alloy of aluminum, cobalt and copper — falls in between the two known categories of solids.

Bell Labs' finding was published in the Jan. 8, edition of Physical Review Letters, the journal of the American Physical Society.

"It's definitely in the revolutionary category," said Kimerling. "Now we have a new material and we're anxious to find out what it will do that substances not structured like this cannot do."

The outlook for uses of quasi-crystals is mixed.

AT&T officials said the material used to make quasi-crystals is durable, lightweight and can withstand a range of temperatures, qualities valuable in making electrical fuses and resistors.

But Kimerling said any practical uses of the technology are years away.

Reagan agrees to video testimony

First questioning on Iran-Contra affair

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (AP): Former President Ronald Reagan will give a videotaped deposition for the trial of a foreign policy adviser in what will be Reagan's first in-depth questioning on the Iran-Contra affair since he left office.

Reagan yesterday consented to a videotaped deposition in which lawyers for his former aide, John Poindexter, will ask him 154 questions, plus follow-up questions.

The former national security adviser is charged with conspiracy, two counts of obstructing Congress and two counts of making false statements for his role in the biggest scandal of Reagan's eight years as president.

The Iran-Contra affair involved the clandestine sale of US arms to Iran and then the use of profits from those deals to arm the Nicaraguan rebels, known as Contras, fighting to topple the Managua government.



Reputed mob boss John Gotti raises his fist in victory as he leaves New York state supreme court in Manhattan yesterday after a jury found him not guilty on assault and conspiracy in the shooting of carpenter union head John O'Connor. (Reuter wirephoto)

Gotti acquitted of all charges

Celebration time

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (Reuters): Admirers of reputed mafia "godfather" John Gotti celebrated his acquittal of conspiracy and assault charges by setting off fireworks and cheering in the streets of New York's little Italy last night as Gotti toasted his good fortune with friends.

Gotti, 49, the alleged head of the Gambino crime family, was found not guilty and acquitted by a 12-member jury on all six charges that could have sent him to jail for life.

After the trial, Gotti was greeted by cheering admirers on the streets of the Italian section of lower Manhattan as he arrived in a luxury maroon car to celebrate at the Ravenite Club, a reputed mob meeting place.

Later, fireworks soared in the night sky while inside the club Gotti, dressed in a teal-blue double-breasted silk suit, drank champagne with friends toasting his acquittal.

In Ozone Park area of Queens people celebrated outside the Bergin Hunt and Fish Club, another site controlled by Gotti.

The jury had deliberated for four days over whether Gotti had ordered the shooting of carpenter union boss John O'Connor.

Soul singer James Brown may be freed

AUGUSTA, Georgia, Feb 10, (UPI): A Georgia state judge cleared the way for soul singer James Brown to get out of a south Carolina prison.

State court judge Gayle Hammick cut 90 days off Brown's Georgia sentence, making him eligible for work release in South Carolina. South Carolina officials could not say when Brown would be freed from prison or where he would be employed.

Community services director Tony Strawhorn said Brown's release would depend on the availability of bed

space and a job.

Brown is serving a six-year sentence in South Carolina on multiple charges stemming from a 1985 incident that started in August when Brown burst into an insurance seminar with a shotgun. He then led police on a chase that crosses the South Carolina-Georgia border.

Brown received a concurrent six-year and 90-day sentence in Georgia on charges involving the same incident. South Carolina officials did not want to release him until the two sentences were equalized.



Thank God, my son is free

With her son's head on her shoulder, the mother of the former Contra prisoner thanks God for his release from prison in Tipitapa Feb 9. More than 1000 prisoners were released here today, beneficiaries of presidential pardon. (Reuter wirephoto)

Nicaragua frees 1,000 political prisoners

MANAGUA, Feb 10, (Reuters): Nicaragua freed more than 1,000 political prisoners yesterday in an effort to heal the wounds from years of revolution and civil war, but many emerged resurgent and bitter against the leftist government.

"If they let us work, we will work. If not I will continue in the struggle," said Jose Luis Morales, 46, who spent five years in jail for assisting US-backed Contra rebels in their nine-year long war against the ruling Sandinistas.

The prisoners, released in a ceremony at Tipitapa prison near Managua, included 1,151 people accused of being Contras or of helping the rebels.

Also freed were 39 members of former dictator Anastasio Somoza's national guard, some of whom have been accused of murdering, torturing and raping Sandinista leaders before the 1979 revolution.

The National Assembly pardoned the prisoners this week after President Daniel Ortega called for their release as a gesture of reconciliation before elections on Feb 25.

Commandante Franco Montenegro, head of prisons, read out a decree ordering the release of the prisoners, who stood in long lines in the dusty prison parade ground.

Officials say no national guardsmen or Contras remain in Nicaraguan jails following the release.

The 39 guardsmen were excluded from a mass prisoner release last year because the authorities accused them of human rights violations and said they had refused to submit to political re-education.

Most remained defiant after almost 11 years in jail.

Colonel Inacio Caudra, 56, angrily rejected allegations by a Sandinista legislator this week that he had tortured Ortega when he was jailed under the Somoza government.

"This organization has been operating for some time and is suspected of laundering millions and millions of drug dollars," Caudra said.

Alto described the operation as the largest money-laundering group uncovered in New Jersey. (UPI)

Marijuana use approved: The US Food and Drug Administration approved the smoking of marijuana for a patient who suffers pain and muscle spasms from a rare medical disorder, a patients' rights organization said on Friday in Washington.

The Alliance for Cannabis Therapeutics said the government agency had given approval to George McMahon, 39, to smoke marijuana to relieve

problems associated with multiple sclerosis, a rare genetic disorder with fewer than 200 reported cases.

The agency later confirmed it had given approval to McMahon to buy government-grown marijuana through prescription.

Bob Randall, a glaucoma sufferer who heads the organization, said there are now five legal users of marijuana in the United States, including himself.

He won a landmark case in 1976 to become the first modern legal user of the drug to treat a medical

condition. (Reuter)

Jury selection begins: Jury selection began Thursday in Miami, Florida in the murder trial of an Evangelist accused of convincing a mother to withhold food from her 4-year-old girl to rid her of demons.

The opening of the trial before circuit judge George Lowery comes two years to the day after the death of Kimberly McLean.

Mary Nicholson, 39, of Pace, Florida, is charged with murder and aggravated child abuse for allegedly convincing Darlene Jackson that her daughter was possessed by six demons that could be exorcised through strict diet and discipline.

Jackson, 33, was sentenced in September 1989 to seven years in prison after pleading guilty six months earlier to third-degree murder and child abuse before the jury began deliberations.

At her sentencing, Jackson vowed to testify against Nicholson. (AP)

Skeleton imposter unmasked: The "tepehuan man," known to a generation of schoolchildren as Mexico's oldest skeleton, was unmasked as an imposter on Friday when researchers announced the human remains were neither male nor especially old.

"This is the end of the myth of the tepehuan man, who is actually a woman and dates back no more than 2,000 years," archaeologist Jose Luis Lorenzo told a news conference.

For decades researchers believed the skeleton, discovered in 1947 and nicknamed "the Mexican grandfather," could have been 10,000 years old or older, said Lorenzo, an Emeritus professor at the National Anthropology and History Institute.



Volunteers use oil absorbent pads to clean up light brown foam washing up on shore Feb 9. (Reuter wirephoto)

Concorde low on fuel

Priority landing

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (UPI): A supersonic Air France Concorde jet was given priority landing Friday at Kennedy international airport when pilots told air traffic controllers the plane was low on fuel following a trans-Atlantic flight.

Air France Flight 001, which was carrying 74 passengers, was forced to drop down to subsonic speed 90 minutes before landing because of a problem with the plane's autopilot, officials said, adding that the jet landed with 30 minutes worth of fuel left in its tanks.

At 1:34 pm, the crew told air traffic controllers in Nashua, New Hampshire, plane was low on fuel, said Kathleen Bergen, a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Bergen said she did not know whether controllers actually used the word "emergency" when relaying the plane's fuel status to their colleagues at Kennedy, but the plane was allowed to make a direct landing at 1:56 pm.

JOHN LEE

'End of a long chapter'

World welcomes Mandela freedom

Leaders hail decision

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (Reuters): President George Bush today hailed as a "bold and imaginative" step the South African decision to free black nationalist Nelson Mandela after 27 years in prison.

"I welcome this move and view it as another significant step on the road to the non-racial democratic South Africa which we all desire," Bush said in a statement issued from the presidential retreat in nearby Camp David.

President De Klerk has shown bold and imaginative leadership in recent days which has earned the admiration of many of us who hope for swift and peaceful evolution in South Africa," Bush said.

The President repeated an earlier announcement that he would invite Mandela and De Klerk separately to come to Washington.

"As I stated earlier, I look forward to meeting independently with state President De Klerk and Mr Mandela in the coming months as part of my continuing dialogue with South African leadership," he said.

Ronald Robinson, director of a leading US anti-apartheid pressure group, Trans-Africa, said Mandela's release is "the first tiny step on a long road."

He said the release came about because of sanctions against South Africa by the United States and West European countries.

Robinson said that those sanctions should remain in force, noting that the South African government has still not lifted the state of emergency that gives it extraordinary police powers, nor moved to repeal apartheid racial separation laws.

He also called for the removal of troops from

black townships and the freeing of remaining political prisoners.

"It is too early to evaluate the good faith of De Klerk," Robinson said. "So far, these are small concessions."

Senator Edward Kennedy and others in Congress who have sponsored legislation to impose sanctions against South Africa were not immediately available for comment. Congress is now in recess.

But others welcomed the news.

"Of course I'm happy to hear it," said the Reverend Calvin Butts, pastor of a Harlem church and a leader of New York City's black community. "I believe that means that Mandela has some level of satisfaction concerning how things will proceed once he is released, that is, the reforms being instituted by F.W. de Klerk will continue."

"I think the world owes some congratulations to De Klerk," Butts added. "In light of recent reports, it has taken great deal of courage for him to do what he did."

"Of course Mr Mandela was at one time a tool for change," Butts said. "With his imprisonment he became more of a symbol. His release is symbolic and we hope he once again will become a tool to shape freedom for South African blacks."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher praised De Klerk's decision to free Mandela and said she saw no further reason to discourage new investment in South Africa.

"I very warmly welcome the announcement today of the unconditional release of Mandela. This is a goal towards which the British government and many others in Britain have worked long and hard," her office said in a statement.

(Continued from Page 1)

In Johannesburg, police used tear-gas and batons to disperse some 100 demonstrators protesting the presence of a boycotting English cricket team.

About 500 members of the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement, many in khaki uniforms and armed with truncheons, gathered in downtown Pretoria to march on the government buildings.

The protest came before De Klerk told a news conference in Cape Town that he would free Mandela.

Before the march began, some members of the movement began shouting "hang Mandela."

In Lusaka, Zambia, the ANC's headquarters-in-exile, the news was greeted with jubilation.

"I can hardly believe it," said ANC executive committee member James Stuart. "It's a great victory for our people."

The government has expressed fears about Mandela's safety following reported death threats from right- and left-wing extremists.

De Klerk said the matter of security was being discussed with Mandela's colleagues, but added: "When he is released he becomes a free man. He doesn't owe it to me to inform him about his programme."

Mandela's wife, Winnie, was at the family home in Soweto, outside Johannesburg and had no immediate comment.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who won the Nobel Peace prize in 1984 for his anti-apartheid activities, said: "These are incredible days in which we are living."

The anti-apartheid campaigner heard the news while visiting the house of Mandela's wife Winnie in the black Soweto township near Johannesburg. As he left, his car was surrounded by a large crowd of reporters.

Tutu and other Mandela supporters danced and sang celebration after news of the release was announced.

In Washington, President George Bush welcomed the announcement and praised De Klerk for "bold and imaginative leadership."

Radio Moscow said the end of Mandela's imprisonment was "an important step on the way towards the beginning of negotiations between the authorities and the anti-apartheid forces to bring down apartheid."

Mrs Mandela is expected to fly to Cape Town to be with her husband when he at last leaves Victor Verster prison.

Walter Sisulu, Mandela's closest ANC colleague, was also en route for Cape Town to attend the release celebrations.

A senior official of the ANC said Mandela's release was "a turning point in our history."

ANC officials who will preside over the release headed for Victor Verster immediately after the announcement to consult with Mandela.

A source in the anti-apartheid movement said Mandela would probably address a rally in Cape Town before returning to his Soweto home.

Police went on full alert today to control victory celebrations in South Africa's townships and government sources said all police leave was cancelled.

The source said police chiefs in Pretoria, the South African capital, were at their desks today before De Klerk spoke.

An operations centre had been set up, the source said, to monitor the security situation following Mandela's release.



Florida radio station offers Rooney a job

TAMPA, Florida, Feb 10, (UPI): Andy Rooney, the droll, ever-wondering essayist suspended by CBS News for racist remarks attributed to him in a Los Angeles homosexual publication, was offered a job yesterday hosting a talk show on a Florida radio station.

The three-month package offered by Tampa radio station WFLA-AM includes free use of a gulfside condominium near St. Petersburg, daily limousine services and a plum, noon to 3 pm time slot, station operations manager Gabe Hobbs said.

"We've never really hired anybody of this stature

before, so I really don't know what to expect," he said. "I think the chance to spend a winter vacation in Florida and an opportunity to continue working certainly may pique his interest."

Rooney, a best-selling book writer and commentator on the popular CBS News programme "60 Minutes," was suspended Thursday for three months by CBS News president David Burke after the Advocate, a bi-weekly newspaper, quoted him as saying black people "watered down" their genes because the less intelligent have the most children.



People flee from South African riot police after police forcefully dispersed a rally to celebrate the unbanning of ANC. (Reuter wirephoto)

Taiwan oldies fighting it out

TAIPEI, Feb 10, (AP): President Lee Teng-Hui is a shoo-in to be nominated for re-election tomorrow by the ruling Nationalist Party, but a battle between aging conservatives and reformers is raging over his running mate.

The political infighting could determine the pace of reforms in Taiwan, which had its first multiparty election in December after 38 years of martial law.

One conservative favourite is Chiang Wego, a former general and son of Chiang Kai-Shek, who ruled Taiwan with an iron fist through four decades.

At tomorrow's Nationalist Party convention, 180 members of the party's central committee are widely expected to nominate Lee for six more years as president. The central committee includes many military and government officials who have pledged their allegiance to Lee after he succeeded another of Chiang Kai-Shek's sons, president Chiang Ching-Kuo, who died in office in 1988.

Lee will then announce his running mate and the committee will vote on his choice.

Elderly members of the National Assembly, Taiwan's electoral college which meets in March to elect the president and vice-president, have lobbied for a conservative running mate to counterbalance Lee, who is considered a reformer.

Many of the old guard fear that if Lee picks a reformer like himself they will be forced from power. Losing power would mean a loss of salary and lucrative perks.

Lee, the first native Taiwanese to head the nationalist government and party, has given no hint of who he might choose for his running mate.

Liu Kuo-Tsai, speaker of the legislature, quoted the president as saying, "I am exhausted mentally and physically" over the choice of a vice-presidential candidate.

Lee reportedly would like to pick his running mate from reform-minded cabinet ministers and officials such as James Soong, secretary-general of the Nationalist Party.

The 1st District Court of Appeals said Tung's motives weren't the equivalent of "heat of passion," which makes an intentional killing manslaughter rather than murder. The 3-0 ruling upheld Tung's

Call to dismantle 'Korean wall' too

US troop cuts

Cheney allays Asian fears

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (AP): Defence Secretary Dick Cheney leaves today on a trip to Asia where he is expected to discuss with key allies possible US troop cuts and the future of American bases in the Pacific.

Cheney is conducting the two-week series of meetings in the Philippines, Korea and Japan, as well as Hong Kong, in advance of an April 1 report to Congress on reorganising US forces in East Asia.

Before travelling to South Korea, Cheney planned a three-night stop in Hawaii for talks with Adm. Huntington Hardisty, the top military man in the Pacific, and visits with US troops at several military bases there.

In a recent interview with wire service reporters, Cheney said he had "a full range of items to discuss" with the civilian and military leaders on his trip, including the issue of "burdensharing." The term refers to efforts to seek funding from nations that host US forces, such as Japan, South Korea and Western Europe.

Cheney has signed a paper that assumes the Asian allies must take up more of the burden of their defence, and assumes a smaller US military presence in the Pacific. But the document, which offers guidance to US military services, also stresses that the United States must remain committed to the "forward deployment" of its forces in the region.

During a time of tight budgets at home, the defence secretary has come under severe questioning in Congress about his \$292.1 billion request for Pentagon spending during the next fiscal year.

And even though Cheney announced in connection with his budget that some 2,000 US personnel will be withdrawn from three US Air Force bases in South Korea in an attempt to cut costs, some lawmakers are demanding more severe cuts in US forces overseas.

Journalist killer's conviction upheld

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb 10, (AP): A state appeals court yesterday upheld the murder conviction of a Taiwanese gangster for the 1984 slaying of a Chinese-American journalist who had written critically of Taiwan's government.

Tung Kuei-sen, 37, admitted taking part in the shooting of Henry Liu and said he did it out of patriotism after being told Liu was a traitor.

The 1st District Court of Appeals said Tung's responsibility for the murder, including the nation's defence intelligence chief, vice-admiral Wong Hsi-bin, who was found to have ordered the gangs to silence Liu. Wong was sentenced to life in prison.

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Art that will rewrite history

A collection of 14 ancient silver dishes worth an estimated \$70 million that will "rewrite the history of Roman art" will be sold unless its authenticity or ownership is challenged, Sotheby's said Friday.

The Seuso Treasure has four large plates, five pitchers, a tall jar, two buckets, a basin, a lady's toilet casket and the copper-alloy cauldron in which the silver was believed to have been found in Lebanon in the mid-1970s.

The pieces, decorated with mythological and contemporary figures of the fourth and fifth centuries, in total

outweigh the combined weight of the 98 pieces of the two other main silver treasures of the period, the auction house said.

"Every time I look at it I get goose pimples," said Marcus Linell, (shown above) senior director of Sotheby's of Europe. "It is a startling find in every respect."

"It is so good and so grand and of such good quality that it will make a reappraisal of the art of the period necessary," he said.

Brazil Indians dying in hundreds

SAO PAULO, Feb 10, (Reuters): A Roman Catholic church group yesterday accused the Brazilian government of being responsible for the death of 1,500 Yanomami Indians over the past two years.

The estimate of 1,500 deaths, given by the Church's Indian Missionary Council (Cimi), was the most precise figure yet provided by any organisation in Brazil on the extent of the Indians' suffering. According to official figures, Brazil has nearly 10,000 Yanomami.

In defiance of the law, about 40,000 gold diggers are prospecting in Yanomami lands and Indians have been dying of recently imported diseases, such as malaria and measles, since the Amazon gold rush reached their rugged jungles in 1987.

The plight of the Yanomami, the biggest tribe of forest Indians in the Americas, has attracted international attention and led to demonstrations against Brazil in Europe.

A European Company has a vacancy for an ALL-ROUND BOOKKEEPER / SECRETARY

The most important duties that have to be solved are:

- Clerical work due to:

- financial records and cashflow

- salary administration

- invoicing to customers

- Control of accounts receivable

- personnel and business visitors

- telephone

- fax

- reception

Due to the above contacts with:

- customers

- suppliers

- banker

- Government

The following knowledge/experience is needed for the job:

- a good administrative education

- well known with automation

- Arabic and English languages in writing/typing/ speaking

- experience in comparable job for several years.

All applications in writing to be addressed to:

The General Manager

Mr J. Verberk

P.O. Box 42273 Shuaikh

70653 Kuwait.

The envelopes should be clearly marked "Bookkeeper/ Secretary"

NEWS IN BRIEF

America

Kelso lands top navy job: President George Bush will nominate Admiral Frank B. Kelso II to be the new chief of naval operations, the White House announced in San Francisco Wednesday.

Kelso, now commander in chief of the US Atlantic Command and supreme allied commander for the Atlantic, would succeed Admiral Carlisle A.H. Trost, whose term expires June 30.

Kelso, 56, is a former commander of the US Atlantic Fleet and the Sixth Fleet.

The Fayetteville, Tennessee, native is a 1956 naval academy graduate. (AP) *

Twins hold-up sheriff, kill selves: Twin robbery suspects held the Richland county sheriff hostage in the county courthouse for four hours Friday night before one of the twins killed his brother and himself, authorities said.

The sheriff was unharmed.

Assistant county prosecutor Jerry Ault said Brad Jordan killed his twin brother, Chad, with a single shot to the head, then turned the weapon on himself.

The 18-year-old brothers had been brought from jail to the sheriff's detective bureau in the courthouse for questioning about a string of robberies they allegedly committed 10 days before in three northeastern Ohio towns.

The twins overcame deputy Debra Strine and took her gun, then held her hostage until sheriff Dale Shetler exchanged himself for Strine, said sheriff's officer Gregory Kemp.

Shetler was in the room when Jordan killed his brother and himself, Kemp said.

The twins' mother, Sandra Teeters, and stepbrother, Kenneth Teeters, were outside the courthouse during the standoff. ***

Oldest journalism club closes: The vanishing image of the hard-drinking, chain-smoking reporter has lost more of its varnish — the oldest press club in the United States has closed its doors in Philadelphia.

The 98-year-old pen and pencil club survived the death of more than a dozen Philadelphia periodicals but now has taken victim to the changing drinking habits of journalists and the high-crime neighbourhood it moved to in 1986.

More than a hundred people — close to half the club's dwindling membership — jammed the bar Friday night, threatening to drain the beer supply.

Stories were swapped — about the card games in the 1950s that would bring police raids, the time a couple got caught in the restroom in an amorous clinch, the numerous "raunchy" parties. (AP)

Crematorium operator to be tried: A former mortician serving a sentence for mutilating corpses was charged with murder in the poisoning death of a competitor in 1985, authorities said in Los Angeles. ***

Europe

Tit-for-tat expulsion: A Greek diplomat ordered out by Turkey in a tit-for-tat expulsion left for Athens on Saturday, airport officials said.

Elias Kitis, consul-general in Istanbul, returned home after Athens last week told Kemal Gur, Turkey's consul-general in the northern town of Komotini, to leave.

Gur had referred to Muslim ethnic Turks in western Thrace as "fellow countrymen" and "citizens of Turkish origin."

Greece insists on describing the 120,000-strong minority, remnants of Ottoman-Turkish rule which ended in 1913, as "Greek Muslim." (Reuter)

Minister called an idiot: A British minister has been described by a judge as "idiotic and provocative" for acting off a little girl after stealing flowers from his garden, it was reported in London Tuesday.

Employment Minister Tim Eggar was later attacked by his outraged father and had two teeth broken in the brawl.

But when the angry parent appeared in court yesterday on an assault charge, Judge Keith McHale said he could well understand his feeling.

The father was sentenced to three weeks jail suspended for a year.

The court heard that Eggar had seen the girl and her 11-year-old friend taking flowers from his front garden, and decided to rebuke them. (Kuna) ***

Le Pen reignites conflict: The controversial French extreme-right leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen Thursday rekindled a conflict with the Jewish community in Paris by reaffirming that the gas chambers are "details of the Second World War history."

In an interview with the "Quotidien de Paris," Le Pen defended his earlier position in calling the gas chambers used by the Nazis in liquidating several non-Aryan communities, as details of history and not the cause of the whole war.

He first made this declaration in September 1987, ruffling the feathers of the Jewish community that demands a national day for the memory of the gas chamber victims in Nazi concentration camps. (Kuna) ***

Buna death toll rises: The death toll from an explosion at an ageing East German chemical plant rose to five on Saturday when two people died in hospital.

Over 20 workers were injured in the blast.

The official news agency ADN said the cause of Friday's blast in a carbide-producing oven at the state-owned Buna chemical complex near Halle remained unclear.

Much of East Germany's heavy industry dates from the early 1900s and lacks basic anti-pollution and safety devices. Workers had long accused Buna of being unsafe. (Reuter) ***

Asia

Burmese troops cross border: Burmese troops crossed into Thailand while launching intense attacks against one of the last Karen rebel military camps along the Thai-Burmese border, that border patrol police said Saturday.

Police officers, who requested anonymity, said the rebels failed to capture the camp, Kao Moo Ra, after four days of stepped-up fighting which included intense mortar and rocket barrages.

The Karen are among a dozen ethnic minorities fighting the central government in Burma for greater autonomy. In recent months, Burmese troops have overrun a string of Karen bases along the border. (AP) ***

Singer-songwriter Del Shannon dies from apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound

SANTA CLARITA, California, Feb 10 (AP): Del Shannon, who wrote and sang anguished rock songs in the 1960s, including the hits "Runaway" and "Keep Searching," died from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. He was 55.

Shannon's wife, "Bonne" Leanne, found her husband's body Thursday night in the den of their home 35 miles (56 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles, sheriff's deputy Roger Hom said yesterday.

Hom said the death was being investigated as a possible suicide.

Los Angeles county coroner's spokesman Bob Dambacher said an autopsy would be performed over the weekend. He said Shannon died from a .22-calibre bullet wound



New arrival

Salt Lake City's Hogle Zoo shows off its newest resident, a male orangutan born Feb 1 to Hogle Zoo's Jiggs and Vickie, a female on loan from the San Diego Zoo. The infant is only the fifth orangutan born at Hogle Zoo. (Reuter wirephoto)

Fail to show up

Whale-size of a puzzle

MEXICO CITY, Feb 10, (AP): Thousands of grey whales that normally make their way to the warm bays of Baja California to give birth have failed to show up so far this season, and authorities said yesterday they don't know why.

"This is the first time this has happened," said Graciela de la Garza, head of conservation for the Department of Ecology and Urban Development.

Speculation about the reason for the whales' disappearance range from the effects of last year's Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska to a new, cold-water current in the Pacific near Mexico's western peninsula.

Normally about 2,000 grey whales migrate each year to Baja California, giving birth to about 1,000 calves before returning to Arctic waters, marine mammal experts said.

This year, only 12 to 20 have arrived, according to Mexican authorities interviewed Thursday and yesterday.

Malaysia to set record straight: The Malaysian government plans a field trip to Borneo for European Economic Community officials, in an effort to prove that logging of tropical rain forests does not threaten the livelihood of nomadic tribes.

Since the EEC expressed concern about conservation of tropical rain forests and the plight of nomadic Penans living in Borneo jungles, Malaysia has decided to "set the record straight," Ajit Singh, secretary-general of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, said Friday.

Malaysian officials said EEC officials and 50 journalists will take time out from a regional meeting Feb 16-17 in Kuching, capital of Sarawak state, to visit the Penans and see that forests are not being chopped down indiscriminately. ***

Pets get love tokens: Roses are red, violets are blue, Rover my pet, this Valentine's for you.

Unlikely but true, Japan's ever-resourceful department stores have found a new way of squeezing profits from Valentine's day — love tokens for your favourite poodle or Persian cat.

The Tokyo store in Nihonbashi, central Tokyo, is selling ribbon-wrapped gifts of chocolates, biscuits, dried fish or beef for a mere 500 yen (\$3.50). (Reuter)

Crime cases doubled in '89: The number of "counter-revolutionary" offences and other crimes committed in China more than doubled in 1989, the Chinese government said.

Public Security Vice Minister Yu Lei told a group of legislators there were 1.97 crimes reported last year, 1.14 million more than in 1988, the official China Daily reported Saturday.

Africa

Savimbi promised US aid: A leader of Angola's anti-communist rebels said Friday he received assurances of continued US support as his forces face perhaps their severest test in 15 years of fighting.

Jeremias Chitanda, vice president of the Unita rebels, met with Under Secretary of State Robert King and said he was promised material, political and diplomatic support.

The US-backed Unita forces have been engaged in an intense battle with government forces for control of an area in southeast Angola that has been in rebel hands for years. Most of the fighting has been centred on the town of Mavinga.

"We appreciate very much the sensitivity, the understanding that is manifested here towards the urgency and the seriousness of the intensity of the offensive," Chitanda said in an interview. ***

50 die in cholera epidemic: A cholera epidemic in the Zambian capital has killed at least 50 people in less than a week and all social gatherings have been banned in an effort to slow the spread of the disease, government officials said Friday.

The government called an emergency meeting with aid donors and relief agencies Friday to solicit funds to curb the epidemic, whose outbreak was officially announced last Sunday.

Dai allowed visitors

in the head.

"It had to be impulsive," said his lifelong friend and personal manager Dan Bourgoise. "In the end, he must have felt alone. All the paranoid things that made him write those songs he wrote, like 'Runaway,' — I think he just ended up being that lonely guy."

He said Shannon was nearing completion on a new album with Tom Petty's group, the Heartbreakers.

"I'm very saddened to have lost a friend," Petty said in a statement. "Del was one of the true greats."

Bourgoise said Shannon had been depressed recently.

"He was disoriented and he was sick and he started to do all kinds of worse-case scenarios in his head," Bourgoise

Alien smuggling boom in Asia

Rings pumping out thousands of bogus papers

Have dollar, will sell passport

HONG KONG, Feb 10, (AP): Selling travel documents and smuggling aliens have become a booming business in Asia, with government officials and middlemen making fortunes creating new identities for thousands of people.

Paying up to \$30,000 a piece, thousands of Asians are leaving their continent and hoping for a better life. Most want to go to North America. Some enter a life of crime along the way.

"Alien smuggling is the crime of the '90s," said Mark D. Riordan, a Hong Kong-based special agent of the US Immigration and Naturalization Service. "It's almost as lucrative as drugs but the penalties and dangers are minimal."

The latest rage involves a complex paper trial where legitimate travel agents in Hong Kong pay large fees for real passports and visas and then sell them to their clients. But it's also done traditionally by faking visas and ferreting travellers across borders at night.

Diplomats and travel agents say officials from Latin American countries have sold thousands of genuine travel documents to Chinese fleeing the communist regime. Bolivia recently removed several China-based diplomats after allegations of trading travel documents for sex and money. In December, the consul general for Panama in Hong Kong submitted his resignation after allegations that the consul sold up to 7,000 visas to Chinese.

On the traditional end, counterfeit rings are pumping out thousands of bogus travel documents to Thais, Malays, Pakistanis, Filipinos, Taiwanese and the people of Hong Kong.

Currently, the biggest market for travel documents is China, where businessmen and the children of important officials are fleeing the increasingly hard-line state. Another is Hong Kong, which revert to communist rule in 1997.

"They have to commit crimes to pay back their sponsor," said one Western law enforcement source.

"The more violent the crime, the more money it's worth."

Law enforcement agents say there is little they can do to stop the trade. First-time smugglers in the United States and Canada are rarely jailed and profits appear immense.

A Chinese woman, Cheng Chui-

HONG KONG, Feb 10, (AP): With a little patience and a lot of cash, Mr Zhang escaped China.

A \$2,500 bribe bought him a Chinese passport. Another \$6,000 bought him what he said was a genuine Brazilian visa and a ticket to South America. With some luck and \$8,000 more, he says he'll have a real Brazilian passport in a month.

On Feb 3, he arrived in Hong Kong. As he paced his Hong Kong hotel room shortly before he left for Brazil, Zhang said he was glad to be out of China. A suitcase of US dollars stood by his bed.

"I'm a businessman," said Zhang, who spoke on condition that his whole name not be used. "My nationality got in the way of my work."

China does not routinely issue passports to its people and obtaining one has become increasingly difficult since the crackdown on the pro-democracy movement last June 4.

Thousands of Chinese who have bought their way out of their communist homeland in the last year, making forunes for middlemen and government officials dealing in

human cargo.

Businessmen from three major Hong Kong-based travel agents estimate that more than 10,000 Chinese have left the mainland by buying either bogus or genuine travel documents since late 1988 when the Communist Party decided to halt the decade-long programme of economic reform.

Prices for a visa or passport range between \$6,000 and \$30,000 huge sums for an average Chinese.

Hong Kong travel agent John Choi estimated that he and his colleagues have made around \$140 million in the past year moving Chinese out of China.

Most of the emigrants are rich businessmen or the sons and daughters of high-ranking Communist Party officials, the travel agents say.

The final destination for most of the travellers is North America, travel agents say. Zhang said he hopes to go to the United States and also return to China as a "foreigner" — eligible for better hotels and other facilities usually off limits to average Chinese.

"Improperly issuing" thousands of visas in China until the middle of last year, said Oscar Siles, Bolivia's new consul-general in Hong Kong. Some were being exchanged for sex and others for money, diplomats said.

The illegal practice was halted after several diplomats were fired, Siles said.

Businessmen claim the biggest single outlet for visas for Chinese nationals was the Panamanian consulate in Hong Kong, which, according to Hong Kong immigration records obtained by the Associated Press, issued about 7,000 last year.

The consulate was run by Ciro Noriega, the cousin of deposed强人 Manuel Noriega, but he has submitted his resignation. Panamanian trade official Martin Palacios said that any illegal activity occurred in Panama and not in Hong Kong.

South Korea has been a recent popular destination for Chinese and other Asians, even though Beijing has no official relations with Seoul.

Japan voters still in a fix

Campaign in final phase

TOKYO, Feb 10, (Reuter): Embattled Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu slammed the opposition Socialists' "irresponsible" tax policies today as polls showed almost one Japanese voter in three still has not decided how to vote on February 18.

With the general election campaign entering its final week, Kaifu went on the offensive during a stumping tour of western Japan in hopes of convincing the "undecided" to back his Liberal Democratic Party.

For the first time since the LDP's formation in the 1950s, the party faces the possibility that it will lose its majority in the powerful lower house, a replay of the upper house defeat it suffered last July.

Kaifu directed his heaviest fire at the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the largest opposition group, and its plan to reintroduce indirect taxes abolished last year.

"Even the other opposition parties are against this plan," he told voters in a town near Osaka. "Is it possible that you are going to hand over a heavy responsibility (to a party) that is irresponsible?"

JSP leader Takako Doi's recent proposal to abolish an unpopular three per cent sales tax and reinstate the commodity tax has become a major election issue which is further dividing an already fragmented opposition.

The Democratic Socialist Party, one of the JSP's potential coalition partners if the LDP loses its majority, has publicly questioned Doi's tax plan.

The Socialists are not fielding enough candidates to stand a chance of winning outright victory.

But, have said they would seek to rule with other non-communist parties. With just one week to go, all the signs were that the election would be very close.

The Sankei Shimbun newspaper released a survey today that shows 31.3 per cent of 3

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1990

Moscow raises stakes on German unity as Kohl flies in



Kohl (right) is greeted by Shevardnadze. (Reuter wirephoto)

MOSCOW, Feb 10, (Reuter): The Soviet Union raised the stakes for German unity today as Chancellor Helmut Kohl flew to Moscow by saying East and West Germany should be neutral once they merge.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told a news conference German neutrality, a plan rejected by Bonn, was "a good old idea that first arose in the 1950s" and had always been central to Moscow's European policies.

"I think this is the most rational and most correct approach," Shevardnadze said before heading for the airport to meet Kohl, who will have talks with Kremlin leaders aimed at calming Soviet fears of a resurgent German superpower.

Reporting the chancellor's arrival, the official Soviet news agency Tass said the first words the two exchanged showed the great mutual interest in the meeting at a time of major political change in the centre of Europe.

Tass said Kohl would meet President Mikhail Gorbachev later for talks expected to

focus on German reunification, noting that both East and West Germany were now in favour of a united state.

"The Soviet-West German talks are expected to clarify the position of the sides," the official agency added.

Bonn and its western allies have rejected the neutrality plan, an idea first proposed by Josef Stalin and revived by East Germany's Prime Minister Hans Modrow last week.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, accompanying Kohl on the hastily-arranged visit, countered with a plan for a united Germany within Nato but without any western troops on the territory of the now collapsing East German state.

Kohl will also visit Paris and Washington later this month and London in March to reassure those other World War Two victors about German unity.

He will meet Modrow in Bonn on Tuesday — an encounter Shevardnadze said today would be "of extreme importance" — to discuss practical steps towards unity, looming

ever larger as 2,000 people cross the border to the West daily.

The hardest job will be in the Soviet Union, which lost at least 20 million people during World War Two and long saw Germany's division as insurance that war would not come again.

"We have been for the unity of the German nation from the beginning, but the neutrality principle has always been central to our thinking," said Shevardnadze, who accepts unity will come but appears to take a harder line than Gorbachev.

Several speakers, including Politburo conservative Yegor Ligachev, also voiced concern about a robust reunited Germany during a party plenum in Moscow this week.

The foreign minister left some leeway for Kohl, who meets Gorbachev later today and returns home tomorrow.

"There must be a solution to the problem which does not contradict general European interests," he said. "There could be various solutions."

Romania radio, TV chief resigns

BUCHAREST, Feb 10, (AP): Romania's embattled chief of broadcasting said today he was resigning because of intensifying "political conflicts" over the freedom of state-run television.

Opposition members have accused the revolutionary government of using TV as a political weapon. It has been one of the key issues as Romania prepares for its first free multiparty elections since World War II.

Broadcasting chief Aurel Dragos Munteanu said his goal had been to promote freedom of information, and he worried that Romanians had been so poisoned by the legacy of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu that they looked for "betrayal and hatred" in every word, even those spoken sincerely.

On Jan 29, Munteanu resigned as chief spokesman of the ruling council of the National Salvation Front in response to criticism by the opposition.

But almost daily demonstrations outside broadcasting headquarters since then also demanded his resignation as president of Romanian radio and television, saying he had too many ties to the Front, which has decided to contest the elections in May.

Protesters demanded that the freedom won during December's revolution which toppled Ceausescu be transferred to the TV screen.

Munteanu's letter of resignation, published today on the front page of major newspapers, drew bigger headlines than Friday's first meeting of the new council of national unity, which will run Romania until elections.

In what was billed as perhaps the first democratically made decision in 40 years, the new council of national unity had agreed to expand from 180 to 259 members to provide a broad base for the new interim government.

The outgoing National Salvation Front agreed to the coalition government after protests of its decision to field candidates in the election. The Front, which included many communist party veterans, had ruled without opposition participation.

The consensus to increase the new body's membership came after more than four hours of debate at the former national assembly building.

Interim President Ion Iliescu, who led the outgoing Front's ruling council, presided over the election. The Front, which included many communist party veterans, had ruled without opposition participation.

The new body's membership came after more than four hours of debate at the former national assembly building.

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Illiteracy eradication seminar opened

Seven Gulf states represented

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (KUNA): Education Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khudari today opened a four-day seminar on current status of elementary education and illiteracy eradication in the Arab Gulf states.

Khudari, in his capacity as deputy chairman of the National Committee for Education, Science and Culture which is organising the seminar in co-operation with Unesco's regional bureau for education in the Arab countries, regretted that the speedy advances in human civilisation in the past years did not help eradicate illiteracy.

He pointed out that 100 million children

world-wide could not obtain any form of education and elaborated that the world in the past two decades witnessed a noticeable retreat in efforts to eradicate illiteracy.

He attributed such a decline to the world's economic recession and the growing debts problem.

For his part, head of the regional office Dr. Abdul Wahed Yousef said that the Arab countries, including those in the Gulf, have scored great progress in elementary and basic education in addition to illiteracy obliteration.

The 18 participants, representing the

seven Arab Gulf states, held their first working session to elect a chairman, deputies and a rapporteur.

Dr. Yousef tabled his office's proposed programme to modernise elementary education and eradicate illiteracy in the Arab countries by the year 2000.

Meanwhile the director of constructions department at the Education Ministry Mohammed Saad Al Zayed said that the ministry will carry out a number of construction projects during the coming five year plan 90/1995.

These projects will be: Kuwait Museum for National History and Science, Minis-

try's Diwan (premises) in South of Surra area, premises for the five educational areas, scouts camp project, dentistry clinics at schools and then swimming pools as well as building of a club for marine scouts.

Zayed pointed out that the ministry will air condition 267 intermediate and secondary schools and three institutes during the fiscal year 90/91. He added that about 23,000 air conditioning units will be installed in these schools.

The Ministry of Electricity and Water have completed the airconditioning of all schools as from the beginning of the next academic year, the official said.

Kelly arrives, discusses Soviet Jews with Shaheen

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (KUNA): Foreign Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shaheen today met with visiting US Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East and Southeast Asia Affairs John Kelly.

An official source at the ministry told KUNA that the talks focused on bilateral relations and international developments, particularly those relating to the Palestinian cause.

The source added that Shaheen and Kelly gave special attention during their meeting to the emigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine, as Shaheen expressed Kuwait's concern over dangers of this exodus on the future of the Palestinian people and their inalienable rights expressed by HH the Amir in his address at the opening of the 20th anniversary celebrations of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) last Wednesday.

He indicated that the two sides also reviewed international and regional issues of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Ambassador in Washington Sheikh Saad Nasser Al Sabah and Director of the Americas Department at the Ministry Suhaib Shuhaimi.

Kelly arrived here Friday.

In a brief statement upon arrival, Kelly told KUNA that the purpose of his visit to Kuwait is to discuss with Kuwaiti officials the region's and international current issues.

He repeated the US administration's opposition to the settlement of Soviet and Eastern bloc Jews in Israeli-occupied Arab lands.

The US official will hold talks with senior officials on the regions latest developments, the Mideast peace process and the political changes in Eastern Europe.

His visit to Kuwait falls within a tour that has taken him so far to Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain.

Muslim World League condemns Jewish emigration

MAKKAH, Feb 10, (AP): Arab leaders and Muslim religious groups expressed concern today over the growth of emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

The Saudi-backed Muslim World League cabled Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev urging him to stop the emigration.

This action causes great harm to Soviet relations with the Islamic world," it said.

The text of the cable was released by the group's headquarters in Makkah, the site of the Muslim world's holiest shrines.

The Organisation of Islamic Conference, based in the neighbouring city of Jeddah, had already condemned the increased emigration flow.

Its secretary-general Hamid Al Gabid said a campaign is being launched for international pressure to stem the flow.

At the same time Kuwaiti Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, who is the president of OIC, arrived in Muscat for consultations with Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

Official sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the Soviet-Jewish emigration to Israel would be one of the main topics of the talks.

Qaboos is the current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council which also includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

In a recent message, the Amir of Kuwait criticised both the Soviet Union and the United States for allowing increased Jewish emigration to Israel.

There has been a furor in the Arab and Islamic world since Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said earlier this month that he expected hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jewish to settle in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.



Protocol lecture

Protocol affairs was the topic of a lecture held yesterday at the Police Officers Institute. Three officials from Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs including the director of Protocol Department Ahmed Abdulwahab Al Ayoub, adviser Farouk Al Nouri and Dr Abdulaziz Abdulghaffar spoke at the lecture which was attended by 25 officers involved in a public relations training course with three officers from Yemen Arab Republic, two from Oman and one from Kuwait Army, one from the National Guard while the remaining were from the Ministry of Interior.

Pharmaceutical conference

Biomedical developments to be explored: Kharas

By Lima Al Khaleefawi
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT: Third Pharmaceutical Conference will be held Monday at the Kuwait International Hotel, according to the president of Kuwait Pharmaceutical Association (KPA); Dr Mohamed Nukhalan.

During a press conference, Nukhalan said that 85 research papers from Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Kuwait will be presented during the three-day conference.

Dr. Abdullah Al Kharas, the co-ordinator of the conference said that the main objective of the conference is to explore new developments in pharmaceutical and biomedical fields, and exchange ideas and other information.

He added that during the session many topics will be discussed such as analytic pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmaceutical services, clinical pharmacology, and pharmaceutical technology and medical plants. Also another paper will submit a proposal to establish a faculty of pharmacology in Kuwait.

Another co-ordinator of the conference, Dr Ahmed Baqer spoke about the development of pharmaceutical services in Kuwait including clinical pharmacology, pharmaceutical information centres such as a poison centre. He called for another law to organise this profession.

Dr Abdulla Deib a co-ordinator at the conference said that the budget of the Kuwait Company for Pharmaceutical Industries increased from KD16 million to KD22 million.

He also praised the efforts of Kuwait University pharmacists for their role in setting up the faculty of pharmacology in Kuwait in 1993.

Dr Kharas commented on the importance of having a government body to inspect international pharmaceutical companies that export to Kuwait.

He regretted the non-implementation of the 1985 law for pricing drugs in Kuwait.

Dr Saleh Al Abbadi the treasurer of KPA criticised the commercial oriented attitude of some private pharmacies in handling drugs. "They only care purely for commercial matters," he added.

Meanwhile the director of



Nukhalan, President of the conference

pharmacological services department at the health ministry Dr Abdulla Assad has said that the ministry will announce the list of unified prices for drugs at private pharmacies in a few weeks. The unified prices of drugs will protect the public from difference in prices of pharmacies besides protecting importers and owners of the pharmacies. He added that the health ministry suffers a 10 per cent shortage in pharmacists and 30 per cent in assistants. This problem is being solved by re-distribution of pharmacists and their assistants over health centres and hospitals according to size of work.

There are 385 pharmacists including 46 Kuwaitis working in the ministry beside 14 others under training. There are also 380 assistants including 80 Kuwaitis, Assad said. He added that the ministry will not be able to meet the shortage in pharmacists and their assistants before the establishment of the faculty of pharmacology. The existence of the faculty will develop pharmacological services in the state, he added.

Assad pointed out that the ministry has completed recently a study on a new charter for regulations of appointment of pharmacists and assistants as well as their training systems.

The new charter is expected to be applied within the next few weeks. He criticised the bad situation of pharmacists in the government sector. The officials of the ministry are requested to improve their financial and moral situation besides offering some facilities like allowing Kuwaiti pharmacists to work in private pharmacies.

Meanwhile the director of



Kharas ... co-ordinator

He added that the ministry is trying to develop performance of pharmacists to make them basic members of the medical team. There are great differences among standards of pharmacists in Kuwait because they come from different faculties and countries in the world. Assad said that the ministry has begun a new service called the bed-pharmaceutical service at hospitals and health centres. There are 35 pharmacists performing this service at different hospitals. 20 more pharmacists are being trained in the same service, he added.

Assad pointed out that the ministry spent about KD14 million on drugs and different medical materials. He added that 20 per cent of these drugs and materials are wasted every year without being used because it is offered to patients free of charge.

He added that patients, doctors, nurses, pharmacists and workers at hospitals and health centres bear the responsibility of this waste. But he added that this percentage of wasted drugs is similar to percentages in the advanced countries although.

Pharmacists at hospitals and health centres should improve the storage system to reduce damage. Patients should also use and take medicine in the best way and according to the determined instructions, Assad said.

He pointed out that the ministry has issued about 16,718,400 medical prescriptions and 930,116 litres of pharmaceutical preparations in all health areas during 1989.

Bahrain's commerce minister opens Mefex show

By Yakub Razzaque
Arab Times staff

THE sixth Middle East Food and Equipment Show (Mefex) was officially opened yesterday by Bahrain's Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, Habib Qassim, at the Exhibition Centre in Central Market.

The prestigious four-day extravaganza, in its 10th year and considered one of the longest lasting and most successful trade exhibition in the region, has been hailed by the organisers, Arabian Exhibition Management (AEM) as well as leading traders in the island for being staged at a propitious period of growing economic activity and business growth in all spheres in the Gulf, particularly in the wake of the end of the Gulf conflict.

The event is widely considered to boost trade in both foodstuff and food equipment. The exhibition is being given added attraction and interest with the staging of the Salon Culinaire section.

Traders from more than 30 countries are participating in Mefex 90. Nearly 50 Arab countries are taking part in this year's show, making it the largest number of regional firms to enter the exhibition since the inception of the event a decade back. In all about 300 firms are participating in this biennial event.

The largest number of participants from a single country is America with more than 40 companies comprising of over 70 representatives to the exhibition. Other national groups attending include traders from

Britain, Australia, Canada, Germany, Denmark, France, Holland, Egypt, Hungary, New Zealand, India, Austria and Singapore. Bahrain is being represented by 13 firms, making it the largest Middle Eastern national group in the show. There are ten Egyptian groups dealing mainly in confectionery, sugar and oil. The rest of the Middle Eastern group comprises over 20 firms from Saudi Arabia, Turkey, UAE, Oman and Kuwait.

Most companies are featuring in Mefex 90 to acquire agencies or to promote their products.

According to Stephen Key, chief executive of AEM, this year the regional groups have moved significantly away from just agents promoting products to manufacturers seeking agents for their goods. He cited the UAE group as an example comprising predominantly of manufacturers of packaging material for foodstuff.

In the Salon Culinaire section chefs from leading hotels in the Gulf will demonstrate their culinary talent and expertise by competing in a variety of artistic culinary creations. At stake will be a total of 19 sections in this culinary showpiece. Organised in association with the Confrerie de la Chaine Rotisseurs pour le Meier Orient, the salon is said to be a leading event for culinary skills, creativity and artistic merit in the Middle East. About 200 professional chefs have been reported to have filed their entries in the competition.

AEM has meanwhile announced that all excess food remaining after the show ends will be donated to the Mother and Child Welfare Society.

Dud cheques still unbridled

Opulent lifestyle cited as cause

DURING the past few years, the trusting nature of Kuwaitis so

to his fellowmen.

The equation here is, who is responsible for this problem? Evidently, we cannot say that the law did not face up to the problem of dud cheques, because harsh punishments have been meted out to violators.

Abdul Aziz Taher, a lawyer stated that one of the dangerous offshoots of the dud cheques phenomenon has been the encouragement of establishing of individual loan companies which make loans available at high interest rates. This compounds the issue as the borrower is put still further in the red.

Another "side-effect" is that offers tempting proposition to take loans at inflated interest rates and utilise the funds in a "last-ditch" effort to recoup losses.

Those sentenced to prison terms both males and females, succumbed to greed for quick profits without taking into consideration market conditions and the availability of financial opportunities.

The basic trust of the Kuwaiti community having been broken, it has had a direct reflection on the basis of commercial dealings and has resulted in a downturn of business. Credit nowadays is a thing of the past, according to one businessman.

Most individuals interviewed

jointly said that dud cheques are mostly caused by inexperienced individuals who have entered the commercial market.

They added that such individuals are products of a consumer society in which they have been taught and raised on the facade of American films. These films depict "the rat race" where every individual is clamouring to achieve a "quick buck," with the least effort, and irrespective of the consequences.

The release said that the new residences granted during January were almost double of those cancelled, 12,942 new residences were granted in January against slightly over 8,000 in December. In addition, there were 301 government visit visas and 49 others for medical treatment.

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Concerning work permits issued in the same month, the release said that 8,363 work permits were issued, almost the same number issued in the previous month of December last year. But, the bulk of the work permits still went to maids with 6,816 permits. However, there was a good increase in the number of work permits issued for private sector employees. 945 work permits were issued for private sector labourers during January against about 600 issued the previous month. In addition, 52 dependent permits were issued for family joining.

In an interview with Al Dakhiya magazine, the official said that the word "prison" for juveniles has been cancelled and was substituted by "Juveniles Care House". He said this action was taken in the wake of enacting the juveniles law.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

EVERY noble work is at first impossible — Thomas Carlyle, Scottish writer-historian (1795-1881).

Party monopoly broken

Gorbachev's shrewd move

WARSAW, (Agencies): The Soviet Communist Party was persuaded to relinquish its monopoly on power only after President Mikhail Gorbachev saw the writing on the wall — the Berlin Wall.

With autocratic regimes falling like dominoes in Eastern Europe and their communist parties in disarray, Gorbachev had a dilemma.

The choice was difficult, but clear-cut: get the party to move over on the power shelf and make room for other political groups — as in Poland and Hungary — or face oblivion.

Whereas in Poland and Hungary the communists are still a solid part of the power network, the East German Communist Party and communist-dominated government is fighting for its life after the sudden fall from power of Erich Honecker and the rupture of the Berlin Wall.

The subsequent toppling of the communist leaders in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania — and growing popular demand that all communists get out of those governments — firmly drove home the point in a matter of weeks.

"The lesson which befalls communist parties in Eastern Europe is instructive," the Polish government newspaper *Rzeczpospolita* said in a commentary on Thursday titled, "The crisis of perestroika."

"Wherever they were incapable of adjusting to changes, they were swept away sooner or later," it said.

Transformation

"Only in places where organised opposition forces formed in time — such as the Polish Solidarity — was there a possibility of a smooth landing, a transformation of the Communist Party, and formation of a clear left."

Gorbachev's response was to perform one of the major policy

somersaults of the 20th century.

The superpower leader, who only weeks ago spoke firmly in favour of upholding the party's "leading role," became a chief advocate of striking that right from the Soviet constitution.

"Once again he turned out to be a pragmatist capable of adjusting to reality," *Rzeczpospolita* wrote. "And this reality is that, for many months now, the party's monopoly has in fact been broken in many republics."

As in Poland and Hungary where the communist parties disbanded to be replaced by left-wing parties more akin to those in Western Europe, the Lithuanian Communist Party has adopted as its own the aspirations of a nation for a multi-party political system in a more democratic society.

The only other option for Moscow was the China one — an attempt to stave off political change militarily. But the Soviet Union had been attempting that in its satellites for decades, with steadily worsening results.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa often claims it was the enduring Polish opposition to communist rule, manifested in the rise of Solidarity, that finally forced Moscow to adopt glasnost and perestroika.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze conceded as much in his arguments for reform before the party elite.

He said the Soviet Union was pushed to adopt its reform policies by the periodic unrest in the East bloc, beginning with the East German uprising in 1953, through Hungary in '56, Czechoslovakia in '68 and then 1970, 1976 and 1980 in Poland.

Now that Soviet party may have moved once again from the rear guard to the avant garde of reform in the East bloc, the question becomes whether it nevertheless has signed its own death warrant.

"The question is whether the CPSU and the Soviet Union will succeed where its East European neighbours have failed," said the Hungarian newspaper *Nepszava*.

Restructuring

"Will they be able to prove that a Communist Party can not only launch restructuring, but is also able to stay on at the head of a democratisation process radically changed and cleared of the bureaucratic system?"

One veteran Polish journalist was highly sceptical.

"This change paves the way for the final collapse of the only colonial empire left on the globe," he said.

Sweeping aside criticism from conservative colleagues unhappy at the speed of change, Gorbachev succeeded on Wednesday in pushing through a new platform which paves the way for the eventual creation of a multi-party democracy.

Seeking to harness demands for a radical Eastern European style change now sweeping his own country, the Kremlin leader has persuaded Soviet communists that they must be prepared eventually to share power with other political forces.

And, in typical style, Gorbachev did so in a way that will further reinforce his own grip on power, with the platform also beefing up the presidency to give him more clout — on paper at least — than any of his predecessors.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1531 — King Henry VIII is recognised as supreme head of the Church of England.

1543 — England's King Henry VIII signs treaty of alliance with Holy Roman Emperor Charles V against France.

1744 — Naval battle of Toulon begins between Britain and combined Franco-Spanish fleet.

1798 — French forces take Rome.

1888 — King Lobengula of Matabele, Rhodesia, accepts British protection.

1889 — Constitution is granted in Japan, with two chamber Diet, but emperor retains extensive power.

1922 — Nine-power treaty is signed in Washington for securing China's independence and maintaining "open door"

United States and Japan sign naval agreements.

1929 — Lateran Treaty establishes an independent Vatican City.

1944 — US carrier planes strike heavy blows against Japanese positions on Eniwetok in Marshall Islands in Pacific during World War II.

1956 — Referendum in Malta favours integration with Britain.

1958 — Tunisia informs France that French warships no longer can enter Bizerte.

1963 — United States recognises new government in Iraq after revolt, fighting still going on in provinces three days after uprising.

1967 — Military rule is imposed in Peking during civil strife in China.

1968 — Communist troops execute 300 civilians in South Vietnam and bury them in mass grave during fighting for the city of Hue.

1971 — Treaty banning nuclear weapons from ocean floor is signed by 63 nations in ceremonies at Washington, London and Moscow.

1986 — Jewish dissident Anatoly Shcharansky walks to freedom in Berlin after almost nine years in Soviet captivity on espionage charges, and goes to Israel.

1988 — Fresh violence erupts in Bangladesh, bringing death toll from two days of election rioting to 80.

1989 — Afghanistan President Najib accuses Pakistan of massing troops along border to invade and then annex Afghanistan.

Social and economic woes predicted

Troop cut could impose burdens

LONDON, (Reuters): In their minds, Western politicians are already spending defence savings caused by troop cuts in Europe, but economists say the "peace dividend" of East bloc reform could impose heavy social and economic costs.

Such experts say the prospect of huge defence cuts promised by the revolution in the Eastern bloc will in the short term prove elusive and redrawing the military map of Europe could, on the contrary, impose uncharted burdens on people and economies.

White House proposals for deeper US and Soviet forces cuts in Europe and a growing perception in the West that the Warsaw Pact poses a dwindling military threat, have raised hopes for massive savings on defence budgets in coming years.

Belgium and the Netherlands have already indicated they are anxious to cash in the peace dividend and cut their troop levels in West Germany.

Budget

In Washington, as the annual ritual of negotiating the budget begins, congressmen are looking to fund domestic programmes through defence cuts.

But economists caution that at a time when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is taking the biggest gamble of his career in breaking the Communist Party's monopoly on power, the political and military picture of Eastern Europe is far from stable.

"Instability in Eastern Europe argues against doing away with armaments altogether and the need for a rapid response force in the West — that would be very expensive," said Jim Rollo, economist at the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

"Until the strategic options are clarified, we don't really know what the peace dividend is."

In the short-term, economists say troop cuts could spark expensive reorganisation of Nato forces and produce knock-on effects throughout West European economies where thousands of jobs depend on the military structure of the past 40 years.

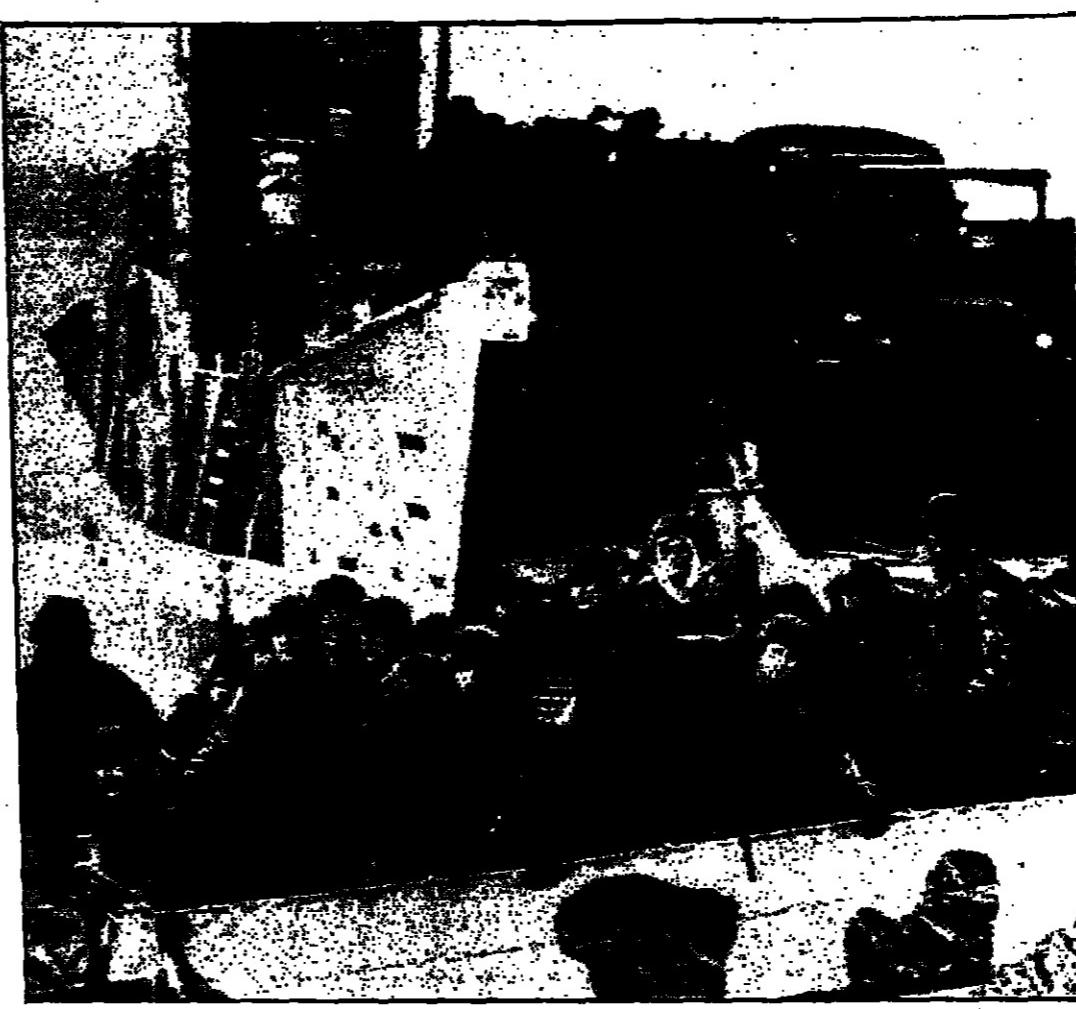
Hopes for a peace dividend stem from the crushing burden of defence spending caused by Western commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation as guarantor of their security.

In what has been dubbed the first post-cold-war budget, the Pentagon has requested \$306.9 billion for defence in the 1991 fiscal year starting in October. It represents a cautious cut of just two per cent in real terms and a huge \$180 billion of the total will go to maintaining European defence where 325,000 army, navy and air force personnel are stationed.

"There's going to be a peace dividend, but it's not going to be as large as some naively think at the moment," White House budget director Richard Darman said 10 days ago.

To keep the 57,500-strong British Army in West Germany plus air force personnel costs about \$4.3 billion (\$7.3 billion) in the current fiscal year, defence officials say.

Figures compiled by Nato show defence spending made up an average 6.3 per cent of US gross domestic product over the past five years, while the burden



US Marine Corps on amphibious landing craft in Europe. (Reuters wirephoto)

on Britain was 4.6 per cent, on the Netherlands 3.0 per cent and on Belgium 2.9 per cent.

Analysts say the true peace dividend looks likely to be pushed well into the future and will be closely linked to the progress on arms talks between Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

President George Bush's new proposal to leave 195,000 US troops in West Germany, plus plans to close or cut back 10 bases in Europe, appears to be part of a complex balancing act.

Analysts say Bush wants to head off calls in Congress for bigger defence cuts as budget negotiations get under way. But he also wants to allay concern among West European leaders that US troops will pull out too soon or be cut unilaterally.

Even a relatively modest demilitarisation of West Germany could have a heavy initial social and economic cost:

— US forces in West Germany spent about 14 billion marks (\$8.4 billion) a year in the economy. According to US figures, some 65,000 West German

nationals are employed directly by the military and another 125,000 jobs are dependent on US forces. In 1988, the army was the 13th largest non-governmental employer. A cut of about 50,000 US troops now contemplated by Bush could have a knock-on effect throughout the economy.

— "Bringing the boys back home" could be a double-edged sword on the labour market. If armies shrink in size or conscription is cut, some nations such as Belgium which already has 10 per cent unemployment, may not be able to find new jobs.

— Relocating US troops on home soil could be expensive if new barracks had to be built. "There will be heavy transitional costs. The classic example was the Vietnam war ... adjustment can take years," said David Mars, economist at Warburg Securities.

— A question mark hangs over defence firms and research and development spending. The West German Economics Ministry has commissioned a study of the impact on arms industry, examining whether firms can shift from military to civilian production.

INSIDE WASHINGTON

By Henry Brandon

Unification gathers momentum

"EVENTS in Europe are moving so fast that we policy-makers can't keep up with them," one of the leading American foreign policy-makers told me this week. "On top of it, it is often hard to determine what various European policy-makers really want," he added with a certain sense of despair.

The indecision here is primarily due to what has become the toughest and most controversial question: the reunification of Germany. It is reinforced by the indecision in Bonn where the policy-makers cannot make up their mind whether they want Germany to remain the key member in Nato and in the European Economic Community, or whether a looser relationship to the two organisations would be preferable.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany would prefer to delay German unification, but finds it difficult to do so because his German patriotism demands that he appears to be a firm supporter of it and because he is afraid that the East German electorate will be supporting the Social Democratic Party and give it what could amount to permanent majority.

The American and Soviet governments, too, would prefer a delay in Germany's unification. They hoped that this issue could be dealt with in slow stages. That certainly was also the hope among all Western European governments. In fact, the Soviet government would have preferred to be able to ignore the issue altogether.

Unification

But now, that German unification has grown into the central issue at such speed and with such momentum, nobody dares anymore to oppose it. The big question now is not anymore "whether" but "how". And in this respect opinions vary sharply.

Chancellor Kohl has reassured the West that he wants Germany to remain in Nato and in the EEC.

But does he want to overcome or reconcile the addition of East Germany?

The simplest solution would be to include a unified Germany in Nato. Neither the US nor the European allies would seriously object to this solution. But the Soviets object to it and so do most East Germans. From Moscow's viewpoint it would move the Western front too far east. The East German Prime Minister, Hans Modrow, proposed instead the neutralisation of the whole of a unified Germany. That has been rejected by Kohl and would not be acceptable to the United States. Furthermore, what makes this proposal unrealistic is the fact that it is relatively easy to neutralise a small country, such as Switzerland or Sweden, but not a major power as would be a unified Germany.

The West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher suggested that a reunited Germany should remain a member of Nato but that the territory of East Germany be kept outside the structure of Nato. He also proposed that East Germany remain militarily part of the Warsaw Pact and that Soviet troops have the right to remain stationed on East German territory. It would mean that Germany became unified politically and economically, but not in military-strategic terms.

Gorbachev, who opposed unification publicly, gave the impression after his meeting with Modrow that he had softened his opposition. It came as a great surprise, but after his meeting with Gregor Gysi, the East German communist leader, he tried to correct that impression. He said that he viewed the issue with "understanding," but warned that "foregoing passions and simplified approaches to the

problem could be pernicious." His Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, also indicated that Soviet opposition to reunification was still alive when he suggested that an international referendum be held assuming, most probably, that the vote would go against reunification. The idea of such a referendum has since been turned down by Kohl.

One thing is certain: Nato without Germany does not make any sense and would lead to the disintegration of the alliance which is the key to United States participation in the defence of Europe, or, to put it more broadly, to an American presence in Europe. The Western allies certainly want to make sure that the US remains committed to Europe, that this link not be seriously weakened for at least another ten years, for once cut off, it would be hard to restore it in future.

There is no doubt that the Bush administration's policy is to stay in Europe as long as possible to ensure a balance of power and Western security. To everybody's surprise Gorbachev has said that the Soviet Union would welcome a continued American presence in Europe. In contrast to the past that represented a basic change of Soviet policy. More recently Gorbachev has been less forthcoming, most likely because the Warsaw Pact is disintegrating and the presence of Soviet forces on the territory of members of the Warsaw Pact, such as Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland, has become unwelcome.

The European Economic Community has its own problems with a reunited Germany. The question that is at issue is whether a united Germany should simply be incorporated in the EEC or whether East Germany should become a separate member.

Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, out of the blue, proposed that either solution would be acceptable to him because, in his view, the problem of Germany is a very special problem and therefore requires special treatment. East Germany, actually, already enjoys a special treatment because its exports enjoy the same privileges as West Germany's. But becoming, formally, a member of the EEC is another matter, and the British, French and Belgians have already objected to such "special" treatment. It is one more illustration of the profound schisms the German question triggers in the minds of most Europeans.

Events

The main reason is that a unified Germany, whether in Nato or in the European Economic Community, will dominate both and hence dominate Europe. It is true that the Soviet Union, thanks to its powerful military forces remains a superpower militarily, but in many important aspects it is an underdeveloped Third World type country. Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany, which used to be considered as belonging to Central Europe, are bound to move closer to the West — that simply is not the kind of cohesion among the East Europeans that exists among West Europeans and that is bound to weaken the Soviet Union even further. It is not surprising, therefore, that under these circumstances Gorbachev is calling for a "common European home" that would put an end to today's divided Europe and allow the Soviet Union to play a different political role in the new Europe."

If one leading American policy-maker finds it hard to keep up with the fast moving events involving Germany, another, commenting on Gorbachev's decision to abolish the monopoly of the

Communist Party, said to me: "It blows my mind." President Bush, I am told, while welcoming what amounts to a kind of counter-revolution in the Soviet Union, is also worried how such daring and courage will affect Gorbachev's future. He first encouraged this counter-revolution in Eastern Europe and now must deal with its reverberations in the Soviet Union. Whether he assumed from the beginning that the changes in Eastern Europe will force him to reform the Soviet party system is unclear, but it is hard to believe that he did not anticipate it. At any rate, he has aroused the anger and concern of the conservatives in the party and it remains to be seen whether they will seriously challenge him. And so while in the West experts are wondering how long Gorbachev will be able to keep himself on top, he is storming ahead with his reforms as he sat safely in his saddle.

Strengthen

Since virtually all of Gorbachev's reforms make the Soviet Union less dangerous and more democratic, it is not surprising that Bush is thinking hard how to strengthen Gorbachev in his trials and tribulations. He will be trying to reach a political compromise with the Soviet leader over Afghanistan where the Soviet Union is not strong enough to win its military intervention and the American-supported guerrillas are too weak to defeat the Afghan Army. It would help Gorbachev politically and materially at this crucial moment. He is refraining from encouraging the independence movements in the three Baltic countries to bring their efforts to a climax at this difficult moment and he is going to try to accelerate the arms control talks so that some basic agreements could be signed at the June summit meeting. Who would have expected an American president wanting to strengthen a Soviet leader?

Czechoslovakia's temporary president, Vaclav Havel

MIDEAST

Fundamentalist vows war on West

PARIS, Feb 10, (Reuter): A Tunisian-born fundamentalist accused of masterminding a bombing blitz on Paris promised a "great war" against Christianity and the West yesterday.

Fouad Ali Saleh, 33, made the threat at the end of his two-week trial for drugs trafficking, conspiracy to carry out terrorist acts and illegal possession of explosives in connection with 1985-86 bombings.

"Today begins the terrible trial of justice which will be the prelude to the great war forecast by God in the Holy Quran and

awaited by the oppressed of the earth," he said.

Saleh's wife and eight others are also on trial. The court will announce a verdict and sentence on March 9.

A second trial will be held later for charges relating to attacks on Paris department stores and restaurants in which 13 people were killed and 250 injured.

Saleh was ejected from the courtroom on the first day of the trial for shouting insults against France and the West but he

sat calmly through the remainder of the proceedings.

But during his plea, Saleh, who defended himself, rose in the bullet-proof dock crowded with police guards and launched into a long tirade against Western civilisation.

Prosecutor Jacques Fourvel called for a 20-year sentence, the maximum term for drugs smuggling. Police found 6.5 kg (14 pounds) of heroin and explosives believed to belong to his group hidden in a forest support for Iraq during the Gulf war.

shortly before his arrest in 1987.

Fourvel demanded the same sentence for Lebanese bomb expert Haidar Habib, one of eight Lebanese wanted under international arrest warrants who are being tried in their absence.

French intelligence services believe the Beirut-based pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) financed the group and supplied it with explosives in an attempt to force group and supplied it with explosives in an attempt to force France to end its support for Iraq during the Gulf war.



Tight security

The son of the former Shah of Iran, Prince Reza Pahlavi, speaks at Westminster Central Hall while surrounded by tight security. Reza Pahlavi, was quoted on Saturday as saying he had passed information to Washington and London of an Iranian plan to attack US targets in Western Europe. Interviewed by the Times newspaper, the former crown prince said he had no doubt Iranian agents were planning an attack next week to coincide with the 11th anniversary of the Islamic revolution that toppled his father. (Reuter wirephoto)

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Saddam confers with envoy: President Saddam Hussein conferred with a Turkish envoy on Saturday on the cutting off of the Euphrates waters last month, the official Iraqi news agency said.

Visiting Turkish Minister of State Isin Celbi also delivered a message from President Turgut Ozal concerning a response by Saddam last month to a decision by Turkey to cut off water supplies to the Euphrates.

The agency did not reveal the contents of the message. Turkey cut off most of the flow of the river on Jan 13 to fill the giant Ataturk dam. The cutoff ends tomorrow.

Syria and Iraq are traversed by the 1,460-mile (2,300-kilometre) Euphrates, which originated in the mountains of eastern Turkey before it flows into the Gulf. (AP)

Pyramid to reopen to public: Egypt said on Friday the famous great pyramid at Giza West of Cairo, would reopen to visitors in March after closing last year for renovations.

Zahi Hawas, in charge of the Giza pyramids at Egypt's department of antiquities, said visitors would be able to enter the great pyramid through the only entrance of its northern face as of March 1990.

Hawas said the pyramid would be open for six hours a day.

The pyramid was closed to the public after archaeologists said the breath of thousands of visitors was contributing to high humidity levels and potentially erosive concentration of salts in the air inside the pyramid's "grand passage." (UPI)

Quarantine after wolf attack: A northern Turkish village was put under quarantine against a possible rabies outbreak on Saturday after a wolf attacked 11 people and dozens of cattle, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said.

The wolf, driven down from mountains near Ortakoy, in the Black Sea province of Sinop by hunger and cold, was killed by villagers three days ago, it said. (Reuter)

Dangerous political style: The Arab League has expressed deep concern over the statement made by East German Premier Hans Modrow, who admitted that his country shoulders part of the responsibility of the oppression made by the Nazi regime against the Jews.

Arab League spokesman on Friday described East Germany's stance as "a dangerous political style." (Kuwa)

Police hold 11 militants: Egyptian police have arrested 11 suspects in an arson attack by Muslim militants on a video shop in the central town of Assuit, security sources said on Saturday.

State Minister Ismet Ozarslan told reporters in the northern township of Merzifon that Hassan Saritope and Cemil Tiryalioğlu were also under investigation by the local prosecutor. (AP)

Director removed: The director and chief engineer of a coal mine in northern Turkey where 68 miners were trapped in an explosion have lost their posts, a cabinet member said on Saturday.

State Minister Ismet Ozarslan told reporters in the northern township of Merzifon that Hassan Saritope and Cemil Tiryalioğlu were also under investigation by the local prosecutor. (AP)

Tripartite ME meeting this month



Drug rugs Woven

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb 10. (Reuter): An Afghan citizen found guilty of weaving heroin into 16 carpets imported from Kabul was sentenced to 15 years in jail yesterday by a US judge.

Mohd Akbar, 41, was accused of smuggling about 35 pounds (15 kg) of heroin in a total shipment of 200 Afghan carpets routed through San Francisco international airport.

Jailed for prisoner death

RABAT Feb 10, (Reuter): The Rabat daily *L'Opinion* reported today that two municipal officials and an accomplice have been jailed for 15, 10 and five years respectively for beating a prisoner to death in the south Moroccan city of Marrakesh.

Mohamed Idriss Kaitouni, editor of *L'Opinion*, was sentenced to two years in jail in November and later pardoned by King Hassan for publishing a report of the incident.

He was convicted of publishing false reports liable to cause a breach of the peace in a statement from human rights groups denouncing the suspicious deaths of four people in custody last year, including the one in Marrakesh.

Abderahim Ben Khalifa, 23, was arrested for refusing to work for Mbarek Laroussi, a "mouqadem" or municipal official. *L'Opinion* said the Marrakesh criminal court was told Khalifa was tied up, beaten and tortured in the presence of his mother.

They said any peace talks between Khartoum's military junta and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army (SPLA) were likely to be held in Zaire under Mubarak's auspices. But state Radio Omdurman said today that Mubarak had asked Mobutu to mediate in the Sudanese conflict.

It said Zaire's Foreign Minister Nguza Karl-i-Bond was due to visit Khartoum soon to deliver a message from Mobutu to

they added. Two rounds of talks between the SPLA and the junta, which seized power last June, have collapsed. The two sides recently resumed fighting in southern Sudan.

Several junta members have recently said the third round of peace talks would be held in Cairo under Mubarak's auspices. But state Radio Omdurman said today that Mubarak had asked Mobutu to mediate in the Sudanese conflict.

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Bus attack was plotted in Israel

Islamic radicals not involved: Egypt

CAIRO, Feb 10, (Agencies): Last weekend's ambush of a tour bus that killed nine Israeli vacationers was plotted inside Israel or Arab territories it occupies, a leading state-owned newspaper reported today.

Al Ahram said investigations revealed that hand grenades used in the attack were US-made. "This type of grenade is not available in any Middle East country except Israel," Al Ahram said.

The newspaper quoted an unnamed official of the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for internal security, for the report.

The official told Al Ahram last Sunday's assault, in which two gunmen believed to be Palestinians raked the bus with automatic fire and hand grenades, was patterned after a March 1988 attack on a bus near Beersheba, Israel.

The security official told Al Ahram that the gunmen followed the bus in a white Peugeot from the moment it left Rafah, a divided city straddling the border between Egypt and Israel.

Another state-owned newspaper, Al Gonhoud, quoted Interior Minister Abdell-Hamid Moussa as saying in unquoted interviews that the gunmen were non-Egyptians.

He dropped short of describing them as Palestinians but said: "Don't ask me about their identities, because we know who stands to benefit from the attack."

Published reports have pointed to a Palestinian connection. The bus driver is a Rafah-born Palestinian with Egyptian citizenship, and the man who rented the attack car reportedly is a Palestinian. Moussa said both the bus driver and his brother have been detained for questioning.

He emphasised that Egyptian Muslim militants, involved in anti-government activity and clashes with police in recent years, had nothing to do with the episode.

Moussa said although the gunmen followed the bus through the Sinai peninsula, they waited to attack until it was past the Suez Canal in mainland Egypt.

Had they attacked in Sinai, he said, the presence of Egyptian security checkpoints between them and the canal would have forced them to return to Israeli-controlled territory.

Some Western analysts predicted a quick rebel victory following the Soviet troop withdrawal.

But a year later, the government forces remain in control of Afghanistan's cities and the rebels, who are largely financed by the United States, control large chunks of the countryside.

"Why should the Russians want to negotiate?" Shah asked.

"They think their communists are in a better position than when they left and there have been no steady military gains by the mujahideen," he said.

"There won't be any political victory without military success," Shah said.

The winter months are militarily slow because winter deep snow clogs the rugged mountains paths that link Afghanistan to Pakistan, where the mujahideen are based.

Shah said the United States has promised the rebels a large infusion of weapons sometime in the spring in preparation for the start of the summer fighting season.

Many had huddled in basements and bomb shelters for days and used the ceasefire to make a run for it to Jounieh.

"It's been terrible with all the fighting that raged around us," said Hala Habash, a middle-aged Christian woman accompanied by her teenage children.

"It was hell," lamented Nawaz Ephraim, 19, who was accompanying his mother and two younger sisters.

It was very dangerous during the fighting. Gunmen moved from house to house during the street fighting. They took no notice of the people living in the houses as cover," Ephraim noted.

A black-haired young mother with a girl of about three years old in her lap sat crying softly as she waited at the Cypriot immigration desk for her passport to be stamped.

She refused to speak. But a friend said she had been separated from her husband and 10-day-old baby during the fighting.

"Sometimes they used the presence of non-combatants in

"We don't know if they're alive or dead," the friend told reporters.

A distraught middle-aged woman with a heavily bandaged foot limped off the ferry and her husband, who declined to be identified, said she had been wounded in the fighting.

"It was very bad in Ashrafieh," said Alfred Heykal, a Christian businessman accompanied by his wife and two frightened little girls clutching dolls tightly.

Lebanese flee to safety

'War is far from over yet'

LARNACA, Feb 10, (AP): Nearly 500 refugees fleeing the fighting in Lebanon between rival Christian forces arrived in Larnaca today aboard a ferry, the first to reach Lebanon in a week, and one said: "It was hell."

The blue and white sunny boat steamed into Larnaca on the south coast of Cyprus after a nine-hour, 100-mile (160 km) overnight voyage from Jounieh, 10 miles (17 km) north of Beirut.

It sailed for the embattled Christian sector Friday after a shaky ceasefire was declared between rebel Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and the Lebanese Forces militia.

Despite the truce, both sides clashed today and one of two British government officials aboard the ferry noted: "It's far from over yet."

Many of the refugees came from Christian districts of East Beirut like Ashrafieh, which have been the scene of fierce battles since the fighting erupted Jan 30.

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EVENTS**The Singapore Experience**

SAS Kuwait Hotel will be hosting a lavish tribute to Singapore at the Tent on February 20 and 21. 'The Singapore Experience' will feature an elaborate cabaret with Lion dancers and Malay artists as well as an exotic dinner buffet prepared especially by famous Singaporean chefs in Kuwait for the festival. Co-sponsored by the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board and Singapore Airlines, this oriental extravaganza will perform in Kuwait before touring other Gulf countries and the Middle East.

'The Singapore Experience' is the first show of its kind in Kuwait and aims at forging closer relations between Kuwait and Singapore. Also sponsoring the event in Kuwait are R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. with Winston Cigarettes and Pepsi.

Tickets for the 'Singapore Festival' are available on sale at the SAS Kuwait Hotel's front office.

**Farewell to Said Akbar Afredi**

Salman Shah hosted a farewell party for the First Secretary of Pakistan's Embassy in Kuwait, Said Akbar Afredi, who left for Mozambique recently. The picture shows the host (fifth from right, back row) and Afredi (third from right, front row) with other guests.

NOTES ON**ARTS**

Hobby Centre
FELTCRAFT as a medium for children to make pictures, flowers, toys etc. with felt. This new craft course will start February 27th and March 4th for 6 weeks for children from 8 years old. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah
14 Feb. Architecture of Mamluk Jerusalem exhibition, opening 4.30 pm co-organized by the British Council Wed 14 February - Wed 21 February. This is a specially designed photographic exhibition which is accompanied by wall text and is on display for only a week. Dr Bourgoine who will give a lecture in Arabic and English is author of the architectural catalogue which accompanies the exhibition.

Valentine's Day
14 Feb: Valentine's Day Special dinner in Messilah Beach Hotel from 8-12 pm. Live entertainment, complimentary bottle of Bulmaque, a red rose for each lady and free raffle entries. Book your table in advance. Call 5624111.

Seminar

THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

SOCIAL

Valentine's Party
VALENTINE'S Party: Come join the fun. Feb 15 dinner buffet-Top Ranks band, door prizes, Cupid's arrow awaiting! For more information call Nina on 5339623 or Kathy on 2523992 (between 6 and 8 pm).

ACT

ACT's production of Thornton Wilder's comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth" will be presented on February 27, 28 and March 1 at 8.00 pm at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets can be reserved by calling 5725071 or 5731782.

Konkani drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to announce Menino De Bandar's "Sounskari Astana Diar" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaitas) on 16th February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Jimior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menino de Bandar. Tickets now available at Canary Video (Sharq) and Video Clock (near G.P.O.). Rush for tickets, one show only.

Carnival Fiestas '90

YMCA/Incredible S.C. are proud to announce their Carnival Fiesta '90 at Messiah Beach Hotel (Habiba) on Feb 22 '90.

Non-stop dancing from 8.30 pm onwards to the beat of latest sensation "Hurricane Alley" and "Neighbour".

Highlights: Best Carnival couple (fancy) and many many surprises. For details contact the organisers on Tel. 2450279 (between 8 am to 1 pm) or Tel. 3921712.

British Council

THE ITALIAN JOB: Saturday, 10 and Sunday, 11 February 6.30 pm, 150 min.

The title is Italian but the case is most definitely British. Michael Caine and Noel Coward star in this fast, entertaining comedy caper. With wild chases galore, the job culminates with the robbers in their mini cars using the piazza, arcades and roof tops to make their getaway causing the world's biggest traffic jam.

STUDYING COMPUTING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE IN BRITAIN

Whether you want a short course a 2-year diploma, a BSc, or a PhD - we have the information you need. Come and visit the Education Office on Monday, 12 February or Tuesday, 13 February and access our computerised database! Our staff will be there to assist you and help find a course to suit you.

One Act Play Rehearsals

Kuwait Players are holding auditions for a selection of one act plays to be staged in April.

If you're interested in directing, acting or assisting backstage, do come along to the auditions at 7.30pm on Monday Feb 12th or Tuesday Feb 13th. Please phone 5615357 for details of venue.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME**KTV 1****MORNING**

9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Kher, news
9.50 Cartoon serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.30 Shua'a Min Al Madhi: Arabic serial (part 2)
11.25 That's Incredible: foreign variety programme
12.15 News summary
12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING

4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
4.45 Saham Al Fadha: cartoon serial
5.15 Cartoon serial
5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements
6.00 Wagala Hakeem: historical serial (part 3)
7.00 Varieties
7.15 You and your health: local programme prepared by Dr Salem Mohammed and presented by Dr Rashed Al Owais
7.45 Diwaniyat Shua'a Al Nabat: local poetry session
8.30 Good evening and local news
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Ahlam Sagheera: local serial (part 3)
10.45 Al Thaman Ghali: Arabic feature, starring Tahya Karyouk, Younis Shababi, Dalal Abdul Aziz and Ahmad

Raheb
12.00 News summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
6.10 The New Three Stooges. A cartoon series for children
6.30 The Beachcombers "Puster Boy". Constable John has enough to worry about, with a rash of break-ins upsetting the community. He is also struck with corporal Dan Fellows looking over his shoulder.
7.00 The Celts. "The Birth of a Nation". Christianity reaches England... The Celts prevail in the country... Analysis of the Celtic British personality...
8.00 News in English
8.30 Wildside. "Until the Fat Lady Sings".
9.30 Coach. "Hot Hoot Mike". Madame Rola a ballet dancer expresses her desire to introduce the ballet spirit into football games.
10.00 Q.E.D. The Bats, the Blossoms and the Biologist. A woman biologist studies the strange relation between bats and a kind of blossoms. Their existence is based on mutual cooperation...
10.30 Bestsellers
12.00 News in brief
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

MPW officials visit Hempel Paints

WHILE paint has always had the important usage of making surfaces clean and attractive, people are becoming increasingly concerned about the protective qualities of paint and its ability to lengthen the life of valuable assets.

To this end, Hempel Paints — Kuwait has sought to assure the public that their paints are both attractive and protective.

Engineers from the maintenance management of the Ministry of Public Works recently attended a tour of Kuwait's first paint factory — Hempel Paints in Shuaikh.

The MPW officials were taken around the factory where Hempel management and staff demonstrated in detail the process of quality paint manufacture. The engineers followed the production of paint from the raw material stage, the mixing stage onto the filling into cans and Hempel Paint's finished goods stores. They were given, first hand information on the manufacture of building, industrial, marine and yacht paints.

The officials were then taken to Hempel's laboratory where intensive tests are carried out on the consistency, colour and resilience of the paint, among many other factors. Hempel Paints is backed by the technological know-how of the worldwide research and development laboratories of the Hempel Group.

Finally, an audio-visual show, signifying the importance of paints in construction, was

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1990

Kuwait since 1966. Their paints are available through their headquarters ... Shuaikh and select paint retailers throughout the country.

**The Leonard world**

AT the origin of this huge universe, a man: Jacques Leonard, Philippe Leonard's father.

Jacques Leonard has always believed in luck but also in hard work. As he says to his staff, "a gift for business is not enough, you also need perseverance and even passion for work." His whole career and success have gone to prove this maxim.

In 1943, with little capital, Jacques Leonard founded a company trading in special fabrics for the Haute-Couture — J. Leonard et Cie — which success grew up very quickly inside the World of Fashion. His fabrics enjoyed the privilege of being chosen by the greatest French "couturiers".

Chanel — Christian Dior — Balenciaga — Givenchy ... Patou — Yves Saint Laurent — Jacques Heim — Nina Ricci — Ungaro — Molyneux — Rochas — Worth — Carven.

But Leonard confesses that "the rocket that put him into orbit" was Tergal, which nobody believed in at the time and which he launched in 1953, as well as the genius idea born in his mind of printing the jerseys — idea recognised by the public in 1962 through a very successful presentation of a complete collection of "fully-fashioned" pull-over, after having overcome many technical difficulties.

Later on, Leonard widened the scope of his firm by founding Leonard Fashion, a ready-to-wear line whose exotic and colourful prints soon became a label of elegance. Nowadays, Leonard Fashion is a turnover of 400 million francs of which 85% is export.

The logical step was that Leonard makes from these sumptuous fabrics and from those still more sumptuous ready-to-wear collections a complete world of accessories including not only perfumes, whose success is already well-known, but also luggage and leather-goods, porcelain items, vases, ties, scarves, watches, whole world created around the brand name Leonard.

This whole "Leonard world" is housed and emphasised in the Boutique Leonard, Faubourg Saint Honore, Paris, run by Nicole Leonard, Leonard's daughter.

In this boutique, the first one of a long list (Cannes, Geneva, Lausanne, Zurich, Dusseldorf, Anvers, Hong-Kong, Singapore, more than 60 shops in Japan and representative spaces in Bergdorf Goodman — New York — and in Neumann-Marcus — Dallas), Nicole Leonard has endeavoured to express a typically Leonard image of Luxury, which is due to become the example for all present and future Leonard boutiques both in France and abroad. This boutique is to be Leonard's prestige beacon and to become the meeting place for the international clientele, for whom Leonard is the embodiment of quality and intelligent diversification in all the fields of fashion creation, perfumery and decoration.

An overall feeling of harmony, emphasized by the golden hues, the elegant and refined light, revealed this place as a boutique of dreams, whose fame extends well beyond our frontiers.

From fabrics to fashion, the connecting thread is short and straight. It's an equally short hop from fashion to perfumes. So it was that Leonard Parfums was created in 1969, with Philippe Leonard being appointed chairman.

**NIGHT CHEMIST**

Kuwait
Hafez Pharmacy
Salahuddin St.
Iben Rusdi Pharmacy
Duaij market
Hawalli
Iben Sairoun Pharmacy
Jahra
Al Nasser Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Saluya
Iben Al Nafees Pharmacy
Hamad Al Mubarak St.
Fahheel
Burgan Pharmacy
Sabah market
Kheitan
Tasamuh
Iben Sairoun Pharmacy
Jahra
Al Najah Pharmacy
4th area

French film festival

Danton is today's film to be screened at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium at 7.30 pm. The film is directed by Andrei Vayda and is starring Angela Winkler and Gerard Depardieu. Danton is a 136 minute film produced in 1982.

**CINEMA TODAY****Al Andalus****Batman****Salahiyah****Hall Booked****Al Hasara****Arabic film****Drive-in****Beverly Hills Body Snatchers****Al Firouz****Jeene Ke Arzoo****Fahheel****Namak Halal****Al Jahra****Zara Si Zindagi****Grassida****Jaisi Karmi Waisi Bhamri****Sulabhikhat****Operation Ninja****Fahrik****Zehra****Aar****Magrib****Isha****Al Andalus Drive-in****Cyclone****PRAYERS****Fajr**

5.10 am

Zohr

12.07 pm

Aar

3.11

Magrib

5.34

Isha

6.52

SPORTS**Steps Ballet**

Steps Ballet School thanks the organisers of the Russian Ballet in Cinema Andaluz on 20th and 21st February at The Tent. The oriental extravaganza will present lion dances, Chinese dances, finger painter plus elaborate buffet of popular Singaporean recipes prepared by Singaporean chefs. First of its kind in Kuwait, the show was put up in co-operation with Singapore Tourist Promotion Board and Singapore Airlines and aims to foster closer relations between the two countries. Tickets available at SAS hotel. For reservations, please call 5657000 ext 401 or 403.

Bits 'n' Pieces

An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

Hobby centre

A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making

— For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

Philippines darts

ALL Filipino darts enthusiasts are again invited for another meeting to be held on Thursday at 6.00 pm, 15 February 1990, at Mabuhay Restaurant to finalise the organisation of a darts tournament. 301 and Killers shall be played both in singles, while a doubles (blind pairing) shall play a Killers game. Last meeting was attended by 21 participants from Alghanim Industries, Mabuhay Restaurant, RIC and SAS Hotel. Mabuhay Restaurant is sponsoring the tournament. For more details call MBH on 5624111 ext 739, 751.

BUSINESS

World Bank pledges support for Indonesia

JAKARTA, Feb 10. (Reuter): The World Bank, the second biggest source of aid to Indonesia, said demand for funds from Eastern Europe would not affect its support to this heavily-indebted country but warned it could not say the same for other donors.

"I don't see any reason why it (World Bank aid) should be less than what we are doing this year, which is very high," bank vice-president for Asia Attila Karaosmanoglu told reporters today after meeting President Suharto.

Last year the bank pledged \$1.9 billion for Indonesia, the Third World's fifth largest debtor.

The country's aid donors are due to hold their next annual talks in June and Indonesia is already voicing fears that freshly opened Eastern Europe will be seen as in greater need of the available aid.

"I am sure that the World Bank activities in Indonesia ... will not be affected by the developments in East Europe. Of course it is difficult to say what will happen on bilateral aid," Karaosmanoglu said.

Special assistance, for balance of payments and budget support, is widely seen by economists as the most likely to be the target of any cuts by donors.

Many donors disapprove of special aid because they have little control over how it is spent. It accounted for \$1.86 billion of the total 4.30 billion pledged last year.

Karaosmanoglu said despite the country's widely recognised achievements in improving its economy it remained a low-middle income country and still needed quite a bit of assistance.

But growing new needs for assistance were putting a serious constraint on the availability of resources for individual countries and the difficulties in this regard should not be underestimated.

An economic team from Japan, the biggest supplier of aid to Indonesia, visited the country last week but gave no clue as to whether it would lower its lending this year.

He said not only aid would be affected but there would also be increasing demand on private investment.

"In that regard the country which has the best, most predictable economic environment and the healthy infrastructure will benefit from the availability of private investment."

Japan pledges loan to Hungary

TOKYO, Feb 10. (UPI): Japan's Export-Import Bank said today it has agreed to provide a bank-to-bank loan worth 5 billion yen (\$34.5 million) to National Bank of Hungary.

The fund will be used by the Hungarian bank to finance import of capital goods from Japan, the government-financed bank said.

The loan is part of a \$400 million trade insurance package pledged by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu during his visit to Hungary last month, the bank said.

In addition, Kaifu offered a total of \$5 billion united loans to Hungary over the next three years to help promote the country's economic development and reform.

The Ex-Im Bank provided a united loan of up to 8 billion yen (\$55.2 million) to the Hungarian National Bank in May last year in co-financing with the World Bank.

EXCHANGE RATES

	1/240
Indian rupee	1,330
Sri Lankan rupee	1,330
Pakistani rupee	1,330
Bangladesh taka	1,330
US dollar	2,945
French franc	2,945
UAE dirham	0,914
Deutsche mark	1,748
Japanese yen	0,02019

Dairy group looks to Europe, Mideast for growth

VIBY, Denmark, Feb 10. (Reuter): Ripening 200 tonnes of cheese in an old jurid chalk mine while tourists hike through the echoing caverns and listen to the owner expound on the life cycle of cheese may seem a strange way to promote a product.

For the Danish dairy group MD Foods, it's a small part of an ambitious programme designed to grab a bigger slice of the global market and triple its turnover by the end of the century.

"We're aiming for annual turnover of 30 billion crowns (\$4.6 billion) by the year 2000," executive director Finn Christiansen told a group of visiting reporters.

With turnover of 11.9 billion crowns (\$1.8 billion) in the year to Sept 30, 1989, up 5.5 per cent from the previous year, MD Foods is already one of Europe's biggest dairy firms, and a corporate giant in Denmark.

Share analysts see it as a growing force in the European food sector, able to challenge such giants as US-based Kraft foods and Anglo-Dutch Unilever in its areas of specialisation.

MD Foods is virtually takeover-proof

because it is a co-operative society, owned by about 12,000 dairy farmers who supply it with milk and elect from their ranks a board of directors who appoint the management.

But through MD Foods International A/S (MDI), a subsidiary set up last October with one billion crowns (\$150 million) paid-up capital, mostly from banks and pension funds, the group is looking actively for overseas acquisitions.

MD Foods markets two-thirds of Denmark's milk and accounts for 90 per cent of its butter and cheese exports, the result of three decades of mergers which have turned thousands of small family farms into a bustling agro-industry.

"We needed a new basis for growth, so we set up MDI to handle production, trading and development of dairy products outside Denmark," Christiansen said.

MDI's task is to look for foreign takeover prospects and strategic alliances and to find and fill gaps in export markets.

MD Foods put up only 150 million crowns (\$23 million) of the capital itself, but has full

control of MDI operations. "It was important for us to control the company because we have the expertise in running a dairy business," said Christiansen. "The institutional investors agreed."

Its institutional backing has also assured MD Foods easy access to funds, such as the 600 million crown (\$90 million) commercial paper programme set up last month.

While dominating the tiny home market of just 5.1 million, MD Foods already exports 51 per cent of its output to 100 countries, and is the world's biggest producer of Feta cheese.

The dairy business is competitive and can be risky. In recent years, the company has had to close one small dairy stricken by the sometimes lethal bacteria listeria, and tried its hand at selling Persian carpets and Pistachio nuts to help the Iranians pay for their huge Feta cheese purchases.

"A touch of listeria in a big dairy would be a major problem," said one company official. "If we halted supplies to a major retailer, com-

petitors would take over at once."

MD Foods is constantly developing and improving new products — such as the gherkin, or cae cheese, maturing 35 metres (100 feet) underground in the moistened chalk caves at a steady 3.5 degrees centigrade (47.3 Fahrenheit).

Cheese division director Ole Thing sees food production and sales becoming increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few giant companies through domestic and cross-border tie-ups.

"Our main customers, the retailers, are becoming bigger and more professional," he said. "They want low prices for fixed quality, fast delivery, space-saving packaging and quick reaction to changing orders."

Christiansen sees West Europe and the Middle East as the firm's main growth areas. "There are big opportunities in East Europe, and we may co-operate in developing the dairy industry there ... but east Europe has good potential over the next 10 years to develop its farm sector and may become a competitor."

Domestic energy needs and strengthen the country's economy," Christiansen added.

MD Foods said the plant will be able to process 34 million cubic metres (1.2 billion cubic feet) per day within four months when three other refining units go into operation.

A major portion of the three billion cubic metres of natural gas which the Iranians have agreed to export to the Soviet Union beginning in March, will be supplied by the Kangan and Nar fields.

The Iranians rapidly started rebuilding their oil and gas-related facilities immediately after the Gulf war ceasefire in August 1988 in an effort to boost their foreign exchange earnings.

Wall Street watch

Despite passage of refunding auction

Wall Street still faces some rocky moments

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (AP): The US treasury auction monkey is off the stockmarket's back, but many observers say Wall Street still faces some rocky moments as it tries to sustain a recovery from its January lows.

They warn of potential corporate earnings shocks. Rising interest rates overseas may continue to make home-grown investments more attractive to foreigners. And weakness in the dollar could cut foreign demand here as well.

On the plus side, they say inflation appears to be under control despite a strong increase in wholesale prices in January. The increase was blamed in large part on spikes in food and energy

prices due to unusually cold weather.

And they say that the slowing economy may soon inspire declines in interest rates that will make stocks more attractive.

In a word, analysts on both sides of the fence say the next few weeks will be bumpy.

"Getting the refunding behind us is positive for the market. It takes away one of the negatives overhanging the market," said Thomas Czech, chairman of the investment committee at Blunt Ellis and Loewin in Milwaukee.

The refunding auction, which involved sales of \$30 billion in new treasury notes and bonds, had been

nervously awaited by the stock market.

Traders feared that rising rates in Japan and other countries would diminish the foreign appetite for treasury issues, forcing the government to offer even higher interest rates to sell all of the new issues.

But demand was strong for the three-year and 10-year notes, and even a lukewarm reception for the 30-year bonds didn't spoil the impression that the refunding had gone fairly well.

Nonetheless, having the refunding out of the way does not guarantee smooth sailing for either the stock or bond markets.

"We have some other clouds to clear up here," Czech said.

He said the weak dollar has been "bothering the stock market" and has given no signs of bottoming out. In addition, he said "disappointing earnings will be with us for a while," hurting stock prices.

He expects the market to move in spurts in a trendless pattern over the next few weeks until "we get a clear sign that inflation is receding."

"We are still facing a market that was wounded in January," said Bill Raftery, a technical researcher for Smith Barney, Harris Upham and Co.

He referred to a move that took the Dow Jones industrial average to a

record high of 2,810.15 on Jan 2 and then sent it careening to a low of 2,543.24 on Jan 30.

The market has retraced about a third of the loss through Friday's close, but Raftery noted, "it takes a long time to heal the wounds."

Rao Chalasani, market strategist for Prescott, Bell and Turben in Cleveland, expects rates to continue rising in West Germany and Japan as monetary officials there respond to signs of inflation.

He said the Dow Jones industrial average could fall to the 2,400 level in the spring before declining interest rates spark an economic pickup and

provide a lift for stocks later in the year.

This past week, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials showed a net gain of 45.50 to finish at 2,648.20 by Friday's close. It was the second consecutive weekly advance as the Dow Jones average rose 43.47 the previous week.

Other readings for the week showed the New York Stock Exchange composite index gained 1.64 to 184.39; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market was up 6.63 at 428.84; and the American Stock Exchange market value index rose 7.23 to 360.79, its strongest gain since rising 7.38 for the week ended Sept 29, 1989.

Bank of Japan governor meets Fed chief

Wait-and-see stance on interest rates

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (UPI): Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno has not ruled out an interest rate hike by his institution after parliamentary elections are held later this month, a Japanese Central Bank official told reporters Friday after Mieno met with Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan.

Speaking with journalists on condition of anonymity, the official told reporters that Mieno, who succeeded Satoshi Sumita at the helm of the Japanese Central Bank Dec 16, "categorically" denied a Washington consulting firm's report that he would not consider a rate hike.

The Japanese Central Bank chief met Greenspan and Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady during the day, Japanese sources confirmed.

A Central Bank official, in

nowledged that a weak yen is putting upward pressure on import prices.

Noting that Japan raised interest rates three times in 1989, recently by half a percentage point late last year, the official said Japan's for now has taken a wait-and-see stance on negotiations.

Foreign exchange and other financial markets have been looking for signs of a Bank of Japan move to hike interest rates to boost the value of the yen and in response to domestic inflationary pressures. Political considerations have ruled out a hike before the Feb 18 elections.

The Japanese official said his government is closely watching trends such as a tightening labour supply, rising oil prices, an increasing money supply and escalating land prices. He acknowledged

goods more expensive here and US goods cheaper in Japan.

Financial analysts had speculated that Mieno and Greenspan might reach some agreement on how to reinforce the yen.

Political uncertainty has sapped yen strength, as the stability of Japanese financial markets is closely tied to the fortunes of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, damaged by scandals. The government has resisted an interest rate hike, which could hurt it in the Feb 18 election.

The Group of Seven leading industrial countries comprises the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada. G-7 officials meet at intervals to co-ordinate economic policies in order to maintain the stability of exchange rates and world financial markets.

The United States and Japan both would like to see the yen strengthen against the dollar. This would help redress the US trade deficit by making Japanese

products more competitive.

For subsequent phases we are talking with French and South Korean firms and to give most of the installation jobs to South Korea," he said.

Tehran radio on Tuesday quoted NPC director Ahmad Rahgozai as saying Iran would build four new petrochemical plants at a combined cost of \$2 billion over the next five years.

He did not mention the Bandar Khomenei complex, among NPC's major projects for which a newly approved five-year plan has authorised the use of \$2.2 billion of foreign credit.



Freight truck exhibition

Three-year-old Vincent van Der Sluis, son of a truck driver, tries to climb on board a huge truck during the opening day of an international freight truck exhibition in Amsterdam. (Reuter wirephoto)

Wholesale prices surge

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (UPI): The United States wrapped up its quarterly refunding marathon this week with surprisingly strong global participation that produced higher yields on 30-year bonds, 10-year and 3-year notes.

During the three-day quarterly refunding, the United States sold:

■ \$10 billion in 3-year notes Tuesday yielding 8.43 per cent, the highest since 9.12 per cent May 9 and better than November's 7.77 per cent. The notes, which mature Feb 3, 1993, and have an interest rate of 8.375 per cent, sold at an average price of \$99.857.

■ \$10 billion of 10-year notes Wednesday with the yield jumping to 8.59 per cent, the highest since 9.18 per cent May 10. The notes with an interest rate of 8.5 per cent, sold at an average price of \$99.40 and mature Feb 15, 2000. The November 10-year notes yielded 7.94 per cent.

Meeting behind closed doors, representatives of the 151 governments that own the bank approved a \$20-million loan for relief from earthquakes that hit northern China in October. Barber B. Conable, the American who is president of the bank, did not ask for action at this session that he postponed in June.

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Proud mum with miracle baby

Your health

Cholesterol tests spur changes

WASHINGTON, (UPI): Public cholesterol screening tests apparently encourage many people to seek advice from their doctor and change their diets to cut their risk for heart disease, researchers say.

A recent study found about 40 per cent of people who had high cholesterol levels on public screening tests went to a doctor to follow up on the results and more than three-quarters reported changing their diets.

Dr Antonio Gotto of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston said his team's study of more than 13,000 people may help rebuff recent criticism about the value and safety of widespread cholesterol screening.

In a study published recently in the American Journal of Cardiology, Gotto and his colleagues looked at the effectiveness of cholesterol screening at a variety of sites — shopping malls, workplaces, health care centres, a supermarket, a blood bank and a school.

The study was conducted by a national network of lipid research clinics and was funded by Boehringer-Mannheim, which makes the finger-prick cholesterol test used in the study. Gotto, chairman of Baylor's department of medicine, said researchers had no financial interest in Boehringer.

Overall, 25 per cent of the 13,824 people tested had blood cholesterol levels above those recommended by the National Institutes of Health. That is similar to the proportion found in the general US population.

Record

At each screening site, people were given a written record of their cholesterol results and were told to contact a doctor if their levels were high. Subjects

also received a pamphlet explaining how blood cholesterol increases the risk for heart disease and offering dietary advice on lowering cholesterol.

About two months after the screening, researchers conducted telephone interviews involving about one-third of the people with high cholesterol levels. Forty-three percent said they had visited a doctor and 10 per cent had made an appointment, researchers said.

"We consider that a very good response," Gotto said.

More than 75 per cent who had seen a doctor said their diagnosis of high cholesterol had been confirmed, and 72 per cent had been prescribed diets to reduce the problem, researchers said.

In addition, about 80 per cent of people who had not visited a doctor reported modifying their eating habits in response to their high cholesterol results.

Government studies have linked cholesterol to coronary heart disease, the nation's No. 1 killer. The percentage of adults who had their cholesterol checked has soared from 35 percent in 1983 to 66 percent in 1989.

Screening

A recent federal report charged much of public cholesterol screening is unsafe and inaccurate, with up to 25 per cent of tests giving results that are too low. Concerns were also raised that many people with high cholesterol results are not referred to doctors.

Gotto said his study found blood drops "pricked" from finger capillaries registered cholesterol levels about 0.8 per cent to 3.5 per cent lower than simultaneous tests examining blood drawn from the vein. That level is "acceptable," he said.

Oat bran theory examined

By Jeffrey A. Fisher, M.D.

Apparently yesterday was a slow day. Why else would the media, whose primary goal is telling the truth, without distortion, have opted to headline the recent negative study on oat bran? Where ever you live, I'll wager that it appeared either on the front page of your local newspaper, was discussed on the mighty news, or more likely both. I realize that living in the New York area exposes me to more news than just about anywhere else (and certainly more than I care to hear), but when I saw this on every TV station and in every newspaper, I can only assume that it was repeated everywhere.

The study was reported in the January 18th issue of the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine, which automatically makes it fair game for the media. That, along with the Journal of the American Medical Association, and perhaps one or two others, are scrutinized every week for the possibility of some juicy story. Since oat bran has been so much in the news in the past year or so as a

substance that can help lower cholesterol, something that contradicted what has become common knowledge became newsworthy. Another story demonstrating the beneficial effects of oat bran just wouldn't be exciting anymore.

The study is being referred to as negative, but that requires several qualifiers. First of all, it was a relatively small study, with only 20 participants. Secondly, those in the study were all young, average age 30. Finally, all had normal cholesterol levels, 200 or less. Half of them ate a diet with 87 grams per day of oat bran, supplied as muffins and the other ate the same amount of wheat bran, a fiber not supposed to lower cholesterol. All other aspects of the diet were the same, especially the calorie and fat content.

At the end of six weeks, the groups crossed over; that is, those on oat bran ate wheat bran, and vice versa. The study was double blind, meaning neither the researchers nor the patients knew which group they were in. Presumably the muffins were identical in taste.

What was found was that each group had about at 6 per cent reduction in total cholesterol, regardless of which group they were in. The conclusion was that the cholesterol-lowering was due to a reduction in fat, rather than any special properties of the oat bran.

Dr James Anderson of the University of Kentucky, who has conducted several positive studies on oat bran, commented that when there have been 11 studies demonstrating that oat bran lowered cholesterol from 13-19%, it would take a large, very persuasive study to make one reconsider this large body of evidence. This study, in his opinion, does not qualify.

While it certainly is true that many food manufacturers have hyped oat bran to the limit (oat bran potato chips!), the evidence that when oat bran, as part of a low-fat, low-cholesterol diet, can aid in the reduction of cholesterol is still very strong.

The latest study should only dissuade those who believe oat bran to be magic bullet, not a healthful ingredient.

Books

'Sammy' celebrates golden anniversary

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): After some five decades of bitter banting, "What Makes Sammy Run?" remains one of the best novels written about Hollywood and now stands a good chance of becoming a movie.

Authored by Budd Schulberg, "Sammy" tells the story of a devious studio mail room clerk who lies, cheats, and steals his way to the top, a despot who became a caricature for many of Hollywood's moguls in the 1940s and 50s.

The name Sammy Glick became a term for describing any human vulture who preys on people in the back without a trace of conscience.

Such heavyweight bosses as Louis B. Mayer, Harry Cohn, Jack Warner, Sam Goldwyn and Joseph Schenck were outraged when the novel was published in 1941. They detected their own ploys and character traits in Slimy Sammy.

Schulberg's portrait was so close to the knuckle that he became a pariah who couldn't find work in Hollywood for years.

Even his father, the powerful B.P. Schulberg, head of Paramount pictures and later an enormously successful independent producer, failed to spare him the wrath of the reigning moguls.

Only 26 when he wrote the best-selling novel, Schulberg went on to win an Oscar for his screenplay of "On the Waterfront" in 1954. But he remained a black sheep until recently.

Schulberg, now 75, is delighted that "What Makes Sammy Run?" is being reprinted this year to celebrate its golden anniversary. Moreover, he has written a screenplay from the book, which Warner Bros. has optioned for a film.

"At the time the book was first published, there was no chance it would become a movie because of the violent reactions of men like Mayer," Schulberg said recently.

"They wanted to run me out of town. Mayer ran this industry like it was his own country. I thought of Hollywood as old Venice and he was the head doge."

"It was unthinkable any of them would produce the movie and thereby expose themselves. In later years the book remained unofficially banned. We produced a TV version and made it a musical on Broadway."

"In recent years I became a bit picky about how it would be made as a movie. I was waiting for someone to make the right offer."

"Now times have changed. New people have come in and they don't identify themselves with Sammy, even though there may be more Sammy Glicks around than in my father's day."

"If the picture is made at Warner Bros., I will be one of the producers."

"What shocks me is how young people in and out of the movies perceive Sammy. When I wrote him he was a terrible human being scorned by everyone. By today's standards he's become a role model for success."

"What is the world coming to? I read an interview with Donald Trump who was accused of being an extreme egotist. Trump said, 'I take that as a compliment.'

"If you asked Sammy Glick, he would take it as an insult even today. It's an indication of the change our social mores."

"I didn't realize until after the book came out that it wasn't so much about Hollywood as a character who exists in every business and society. Without knowing it, I wrote about a universal character, not just a little Hollywood hustler."

"I had the luck to isolate this kind of person and put him down on paper. I heard from people all over the country in every

walk of life who said they knew Sammy."

"When I first wrote about Sammy in a short story I called him Mammy, but my father suggested I change the name to Sammy so people wouldn't think I was writing about Mammy Cohen, who helped push him out of Paramount."

Schulberg's publishers thought it would be a good idea to print a new edition of the old best-seller, which sold some 50,000 copies when it first appeared and more than a million in paperback.

"The first printing was only 2,000 copies," Schulberg recalled. "I got a \$500 advance. It sold out before it was officially in the stores. It eventually went into six or seven printings."

"For this edition, I wrote an afterward that traces Sammy's history," Schulberg said. "I've been happy with the reviews after all these years and it's already gone into its second printing."

"One reviewer said there have only been five memorable characters in literature — Don Juan, Don Quixote, Scrooge, Babbitt and Sammy Glick."

"That's very high praise and gives me hope that Sammy will be done justice in the movie version. The big challenge will be finding the right actor to play the part."

Miracle baby

A tiny baby with a giant heart

MIRACLE baby Rukaya Bailey has won her seven month battle for life after being born one of the world's tiniest tots.

Little Rukaya was born in June weighing just over half a pound after being born an amazing eighteen weeks premature.

Doctors believe Rukaya — whose name means "Gift of Life" — believe she is the most premature baby ever born in the UK to survive.

She was just six inches long at birth — the size of her mother's hand — and given little hope of surviving.

Now she has been allowed home — after spending the first seven months of her life in hospital.

And proud mum Joanna Bailey still has to give her the gift of life by giving her whiffs of oxygen from a specially supplied hospital cylinder.

It's the moment I always hoped for. I just couldn't wait to cuddle her here at home," said Joanna who did not take her daughter in her arms for three months after Rukaya was born.

"No one could tell me exactly how small she was at birth — she was too tiny to be weighed" said Joanna, 21.

The medical staff estimated she could have weighed as little as eight or 10 ounces and they eventually estimated she weighed 500 grammes, about a pound, but that was only when she was weighed several weeks after birth because she could not be taken out of the intensive care unit.

For the last seven months since mum Joanna has made a daily

Rukaya, 6 inches at birth, was born 18 weeks early ... and weighed in as one of the tiniest babies. Although she was only a little scrap of humanity, she won her amazing battle for life.

10 mile round trip by bus to hospital from her second floor council flat home in Almon's Close, Salford, Greater Manchester, England, to gaze at her baby daughter.

It's been an agonising time not knowing whether she would survive — and if she did would she be OK.

"It's been a pleasure getting up in the middle of the night to feed her," said Joanna who was given lessons by nurses in how to care for her extra-special baby.

When Joanna went into labour 22 weeks into her pregnancy doctors told her she was having a miscarriage and that the baby wouldn't survive.

But Rukaya confounded all the medical experts by surviving with all her faculties intact.

The tiny tot who measured just six inches at birth clung on to life — living up to her name.

"When I first saw her after the birth I was in shock and I could only stay and look at her for a few minutes. I felt like that for a few days."

"She was so tiny and had all these tubes and wires sticking out of her. She was put on ventilator and was fed oxygen through a tube through her nose."

Little Rukaya should have been born on Oct 30 — but by

then she was already four months old.

She remained in intensive care for almost four months before being transferred to the Special Baby Care unit at Hope Hospital, Manchester.

But it was almost three months before Joanna could give Rukaya her first cuddle.

"I was terrified of hurting her when I held her for the first time — she was so small and she had all these tubes sticking out at her."

Doctors only allowed her to feed, bathe and change Rukaya at the end of last month.

"It was difficult at first to establish a relationship with her when I hadn't held her for the first three months of her life."

"At first the worst thing was never knowing what I would find when I went to see her — some days she would be off the ventilator but on other days she would be back on it."

"It was like taking two steps forward and then taking 10 backwards."

"Doctors have told me they have never heard of a baby surviving after being born at 22 weeks."

"But the staff have been great with her — I was like one of the family when I went to visit. All the nurses were like extra aunts to her."

"Thanks to the dedication

of the doctors and nurses little Rukaya now weighs in at a healthy six pounds — more than twelve times her original weight.

"She's so alert and wide awake now and when she sees me she just lies there and stares straight into my eyes."

"She is quite active. Even in hospital she pulled the ventilator and tubes out on several occasions — but thankfully not done any permanent damage."

Single parent Joanna remembers those early moments when she gave birth to her little miracle Rukaya.

The pretty young man said: "When the medical staff at the hospital realised she was breathing they rushed her through to the special care unit."

"I just thought if she is going to die then let her go now before I became too attached to her."

"When I first saw her eyes were still fused together like a little kitten's and she was almost transparent."

"She was just so tiny — she could not have been more than the length of my hand."

"She was so small the nurses had to dress her in doll's clothes. I could not believe she was alive."

According to the Guinness Book of Records the previously recorded smallest premature baby known to have survived was a Marion Taggart born weighing 10 ounces on June 5, 1938. She died on May 31, 1983.

"Even the doctors told me it was a miracle."

Joanna added: "A couple of times one of her lungs nearly gave out, but she fought on."



FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: I was obese (OK, I was fat) when I became pregnant, but my physician is driving me crazy with his insistence that I keep watching what I eat and keep weight increase from getting out of sight. Is all that attention required? I have been overweight most of my life and probably will continue to weigh a bit more than average after the baby, so what is the sense of all this fuss now?

ANSWER: Obesity is always a health hazard, pregnant or not. About 15 percent to 25 percent of all women age 20-29 are obese, a percentage that jumps from 20 percent to 40 percent at age 30-39. If those extra pounds are generally a reason for attention, they are even more so to the pregnant woman. Some 37 complications of pregnancy have been reported as related to obesity, a cause for great concern.

During the pregnancy, extra weight may cause hypertension and problems with blood sugar (called gestational diabetes). Heavy women give birth to larger babies, which can cause difficult labor and require the use of instruments (forceps) to aid delivery, which in turn increases the chances of injury to the baby. Cesarean sections are required more frequently in heavier women, and that can lead to complications stemming from excessive blood loss and infections, not to mention unwanted complications with anesthesia.

The eye opener is that both baby deaths as well as deaths of the mothers result more frequently when the mother is overweight. It may not be possible to lose weight during pregnancy, but a carefully planned diet can provide all the nutrition necessary for both you and the baby. However, if you do maintain your weight, you get a unquestionable reward of the chance of losing up to 20 pounds towards the pregnancy is over, which is great boost towards achieving your ideal weight, if ever you wish to try to make it.

QUESTION: Do you know of a condition called "phantom limb pain"? Is it real or imaginary? Our young son, a victim of an automobile injury is said to have such pain and we don't know how to deal with it. Please help us.

ANSWER: The term "phantom limb pain" is used to describe the pain experienced by some patients after an amputation has been performed. The word "phantom" refers to the missing member, not to an imaginary pain. It is a difficult and frustrating problem to treat for the location of the pain is usually in the part of the limb that has been removed.

QUESTION: On this problem feel that the pain is caused by a combination of several causes, some involving the nerves, some psychological. While pain medications are tried at first, including narcotics to help break the cycle of pain perception, it frequently requires a considerable amount of psy-

chological counseling to achieve results. This demands an understanding of the patient's emotional perception of the loss, and discovering ways that address his needs.

Medical treatments include injecting the stump to block impulses that can be originating in a neuroma or nerve tumor. When the pain is caused by a nerve that has become compressed by surrounding tissues, it may be eliminated by surg

President Aquino is still standing tall

By Yakub Razzaque
Arab Times staff

PRESIDENT Corazon C. Aquino of the Philippines still commands support and respect of the majority of the people despite recent political and economic upheavals. "Cory" as she is popularly known to her countrymen continues to march on relentlessly in her determination to fulfill her promise to the 60-million Filipinos of alleviating poverty and improving the standard of living. While certainly it has been tough going for this petite former housewife, Aquino is more than the head of this coup-prone and impoverished Far Eastern republic, but has become a veritable symbol of democracy, freedom and justice. Whatever her critics may say and there are quite a few, this "little lady" has succeeded not only in surviving six serious coup attempts to topple her in the last few years, but has even managed to yield some good results in reviving a fledgling economy by executing a number of well-timed and positive measures.

The past month has been a crucial period for Cory as president. She has gallantly overcome a number of potentially dangerous threats against her and silenced a number of her adversaries and critics by investigating reforms in both the political and economic areas. Her survival and whatever success she has achieved so far must be credited to her loyal group of supporters, the influential Catholic church under Cardinal Sin and perhaps above all to General Ramos, Defence Secretary, Aquino's most ardent ally and friend.

Life goes on in Manila. At least this is what appeared to me during my recent visit to the Philip-

pines. Never has the mood been so buoyant and optimistic as now among the ordinary Filipinos. Having talked to a number of working class Filipinos comprising of taxi-drivers, waiters, bellboys and even prostitutes I have come to the conclusion that the common Filipino wants to just get on with his life and the business of living. The daily struggle to earn few pesos for meals and to pay for the basic bills is top priority of all Filipinos now. It seems to be that generally people are sick with politics and politicians. Their main concern is to overcome poverty and attain a reasonably decent standard of living. After a relatively prosperous period during the sixties, when the Philippines ranked as the second richest Far Eastern country after Japan, the abject poverty of today has come about as a big shock. Filipinos are a proud and hospitable race and the current standard of living has dented their spirit and morale to a certain extent.

Despite the economic hardship, one thing that never ceased to amaze me and invest a sense of admiration is the way the Filipinos have taken even the worst misfortunes in their strides, but continue to savor with a perpetual smile — a hallmark of Filipino national character. Wherever I went I witnessed the gaiety of the Filipino character. People, even those in Manila's slums, have not forgotten to smile, laugh or sing. Perhaps the greatest quality of a Filipino is his reluctance to expose his personal problems to foreigners, but to reveal his traditional hospitable character of sharing and giving, even in a smile. On more than one occasion I was touched by this aspect of Filipino life.

The whole country seemed to me to wake up gradually from a



President Aquino

nightmare of recent unfortunate events as the ordinary people, the backbone of people's power revolution of '86, look forward to a new dawn of progress. The new successes of Cory, albeit modest but nevertheless crucial in rekindling confidence and hope among the coup-wary but hopefully populations, have definitely increased her popularity and given her room to accelerate her economic policies. Cory has attained a measure of success so far following the sixth and most serious coup against her govern-

ment. Perhaps a leading Manila columnist had rightly said in a recent editorial: "Everytime it takes a coup for Cory to be reminded of her duties". However, to be fair to Aquino lack of a stable political atmosphere since coming to power has constantly hampered her efforts to push for economic reforms. Today the road towards economic progress, although a daunting one, appears to be clear for Aquino, thanks to a number of recent events.

Perhaps the most welcome news for Cory is the recent capture of Brigadier General Edgardo Abenencia, the key rebel leader of last December putch. Abenencia's arrest in Quezon City, outside Manila, has given Cory's administration a big boost as it certainly broke the back of RAM and put to ice at least for the time being any attempts for these at large rebel soldiers to regroup and stage another coup. Even before Abenencia's capture, I witnessed that the constant coup rumors prevalent in the country were not taken seriously by most people. The public simply did not care whether another coup took place or not. However, their faith in Cory remained strong. I sensed by the number of conversations I had with people both in Manila and Baguio City, Philippines' summer resort, a lot of Filipinos are not sure whether replacing Cory with totally unknown candidates or even army officers will prove beneficial in the long run.

Cory inspires hope, perhaps the only hope for her people. The alternative doesn't look too bright. Most people here are against violent toppling of the government, but believe in the ballot in electing the president.

While it is true that Aquino's administration has been riddled with a number of indecisive Meanwhile, business is definitely booming once again in Manila, with new hotels and office blocks under way. The tourists are also coming back slowly and are sure to boost the country's extremely lucrative tourism industry.

Kristine Garcia looks forward to the 90s



Kristine Garcia

KRISTINE GARCIA looks forward to the new decade with renewed hopes and confidence and enthusiasm. At 19, Kristine has acquired maturity well beyond her years. She confesses personal and professional crises she faced the past years made her a stronger person and a better actress.

She'd rather not dwell on those heartbreaks, but concedes they centered on the untimely death of her father, disappointments with her acting career, and a love affair which devastated her self-confidence. The love affair, now a thing of the past, left her with a love child, a boy whom she adores. Kristine says the boy more than made up for all the hurt she suffered.

Kristine hastens to add through that she isn't bitter. She harbours no ill feelings against anybody. The past decade wasn't exactly fruitless. She was given a chance to topbill a soap opera on TV, "Amorsila." Regal launched her to stardom in "Exploitation" and "Mortal Sin." But Kristine was simply too young, then only 13 years old, to be playing sexy roles. Still she remains thankful to Regal and Mother Lily Monteverde for the break she received.

She bowed out of the limelight the past few years when she fell in love, not too wisely, the young actress realizes now. Middle of '89 she decided to stage a comeback. She felt she wouldn't be happy cooped up in a gilded cage.

Much has been said and written about the suspenders that he loves to wear how they make him look like Elliot Ness the tough, steel-blue-eyed cop who fought the gangsters of Al Capone era. Suspenders are sensible accessories — so long as you wear them you will never get caught with your pants down — and in the case of the Solicitor General, they are an elegant way of telling the bad guys that they have a tough customer in him. But the comparison of Ness with Frank Chavez is unfair to the later. The movie portrait of Elliot Ness had nothing but a grim stare. No sense of humour, no romantic optimism that things will turn out well for the people will turn out well for the people he served. On the other hand, when Chavez argues an issue, he furrows his brows in effort to rummage in his brain for the appropriate legal point, but he also seems to hold back a smile. He is in a mood reflecting the glee and take of legal issues.

There was nothing else about the early years of Frank Chavez. The second child in a family of 10 children, he sometimes had to travel home by train from school in the caboose filled with cattle, their sweat steaming in the rough journey; sometimes it rained and the odor that stuck to him afterwards was, naturally, hardly comparable to designer cologne. At a tender age he began fending for himself, and went through college on academic scholarships. He did not have the money to buy a single book, but the law school he went to, quickly has the best law library in this part of the world. "The UP College of Law is the only real law school around, the rest are imitations," he cracks, trying to sound parochially ferocious. The first to be at the library in the morning, he was also the last to leave it in the evening, that was his routine for four years, then he graduated with honors, then he was a bar topnotcher. And when he was lawyering, he tried to be the kind of lawyer that his idols were: Jose W. Diokno, Lorenzo Tanada, J.B.L. Reyes — all nationalists and human rights advocates. He was, therefore, very much involved in the opposition against the Marcos government.

The Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) is actually the biggest law firm in the country: 134 lawyers each handling between 650 and 700 cases covering a wide range of litigation: labour, civil, criminal, petitions for adoption, eminent domain, taxation, and a host of others. They are guided only by strict adherence to the constitution, the rule of law, and an objective assessment of the evidence. The office used to be under the Department of Justice, since July 1987 when the President issued Executive Order No. 300, it has been an autonomous body — a convenient arrangement for the exercise of "the moral option." When the Sandiganbayan's decision is appealed before the Supreme Court, the Solicitor General defends the Sandiganbayan, but when the PCCG gets an unfavourable resolution from the Sandiganbayan, he finds himself contending with the Sandiganbayan. In a legal fight between the Civil Service Commission and the Bureau of Customs, the OSG sided with the bureau because its position reflected

"Nagsimula..." a love drama focusing on obsession, also stars Hilda Koronel, Richard Gomez, Cherie Gil, Arniel Sigio, Reyna Lawrence Pineda, and Jay Ilagan. Mel Chiango directs based on the story and script by Ricky Lee. "Bala..." an action-romance, has Bong Revilla and Kristine playing the title roles. Also in the cast are Eddie Garcia, Efren Reyes Jr., Melissa Mendez, Beverly Vergel. Pepe Marco directs from the original story (serialized in Commander Komiks) by Pablo Gomez and script by Meek Roxas.

The two Vision movies will have early 1990 playdates, making Kristine very visible in the months to come.

Charo's so impressed with the rushed "Nagsimula" and "Bala at Rosario" that this early ladie producer lined up other important assignments for Kristine, possibly with Boyet de Leon and Vilma Santos. Charo's convinced she has a young Vilma and Lorna Tolentino in Kristine.

"I wouldn't have signed her up and cast her in important projects if I didn't believe in Kristine. I dare say she'll be one of the big stars if the 90s and Vision is proud to have her as its signature talent," Charo says.

Father dead, son wounded in Tacloban violence

TACLOBAN CITY: A widowed father was hacked dead while his teenage son was wounded seriously when they were attacked by a man who was harbouring a grudge against them last week at the Maharlika highway in Barangay Abucay in this city.

Police investigators led by Capt. Rafael Riel identified the dead as Melchor Torres of Barangay Palangon here.

He sustained multiple lacerations and was pronounced dead on arrival at the Tacloban City Medical Centre. Seriously wounded was Leopoldo Torres, also of the same address. He was confined in the same hospital.

The suspect, Oscar Engraciel, surrendered to the police with his 23-inch long blade bolo after the incident.

Investigation disclosed that Torres and his son were on their way to the neighbouring Barangay Abucay when they were attacked by Engraciel who was armed with a long bolo.

The elder Torres put up a fight, but his small bolo was no match for Engraciel's 23-inch long bolo.

Vigilante slain

A VIGILANTE was shot dead by two suspected rebels in Tondo, Manila.

Rogelio Lopez alias Boy, 20, of 1735 F. Varona St., Tondo, died instantly from several gunshot wound in the head and body.

Lopez uncle, whose name was withheld by police, was spared by the killers.

Western Police District (WPD) homicide chief Lt. Gene Javier said Lopez and his uncle were walking on F. Varona St., when two men blocked their path at about 7 am and one of the men shot Lopez at close range. The other man was lookout.

Javier said Lopez was a member of the vigilante group in Tondo.

Paladin of the law

IMAGINE what a Philippines badly strapped for cash can do with \$14 billion. With it, all its foreign debts could be virtually cut in half. Or the government could operate for one whole year without using a single centavo of the taxpayer's money, meet all the requirements even for unprogrammed funds, and still have maybe P60 billion to spare. That's a lot of money for development: roads, ports and other infrastructure, water wells, hydroelectric dams maybe. School houses, Medical services. A fraction of it could give us an integrated steel industry. That \$14 billion is a distinct possibility today, according to Solicitor General Francisco Chavez.

Where will that \$14 billion come from? "We've just broken the myth that you can't get anything out of the Swiss banking system," says the Solicitor General. "Lately we've been able to recover some \$2.3 million and turned it over to the President. The account had been opened in the name of the defunct Philippine Sugar Commission. We were able to document this amount as belonging to the Philippine government, so we were able to recover it. Right now we are following the same procedure to recover something like \$4 million or \$5 million from another account which we cannot disclose as of now. And then we are expecting the Swiss Federal Supreme Court to sustain the Fribourg decisions which would mean the remittance of about 17 million francs or about \$34 million to the Philippine government."

On his apparent rift with the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCCG), he makes it clear that he is happy with Chairman Mat Caparas and Commissioner Dave Castro, and although he is not happy with some recent developments in the commission, he believes things will greatly improve after the much awaited reorganization of the agency by President Aquino.

Exciting enough. But the job of the Swiss bank system and the Swiss judiciary. Whatever more the government got lately was observed there was already, in the first place, full and unmistakable documentation of Philippine government ownership. Philsucro's money is obviously Philippine government money. "We have engaged the services of a renowned lawyer in Zurich," he reveals, "other than the Swiss lawyers we already have. We are working on this very earnestly."

He is still extremely unhappy with the Swiss bank system and the Swiss judiciary. Whatever more the government got lately was observed there was already, in the first place, full and unmistakable documentation of Philippine government ownership. Philsucro's money is obviously Philippine government money. "I suspect there is a lot of fooling around here," he says of the Swiss bankers and their government.

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He probably feels that everything else he does after that would be anticlimactic.

This, of course, is entirely new.



Solicitor General Frank Chavez: a man readying the give and take of legal combat.

Mina Gabor: products, people, places

BREATHLESSLY seeking Mina — is now getting to interview Mina Gabor could be described.

Ms Gabor is not in — someone from her office at the Department of Tourism (DOT) says over the phone, adding that she has proceeded to her other office at the Center for International Trade and Expositions and Missions (Citem).

Yes, she was just here, someone from Citem answers, but she has proceeded to the Philippines International Conference Center (PICC) for the dry-run of the DOT's Kakabay Awards. A call to PICC and one is told, yes, she was in a minute ago — she has gone on to the Manila Pavilion for a meeting.

Dial, dial and finally Manila Pavilion says Ms Gabor is there and they're calling her. A not-so-breathless Mina comes to the phone.

An interview? She laughs, is surprised. She rattles off a day, a time, a place — unbeknownst to her secretary. This spells the start of a merry chase. Getting to know Mina means three staccato, ever interrupted interviews — one at DOT, another at Citem, then at home.

As her name — Mina — suggests, the lady is a minefield of creative energy ever ready to explode. In another sense she's a gold mine of ideas that, if translated into tangibles, could mean added gold — green gold for dollar-strapped Philippines.

Mina wears several hats. A few months ago, President Aquino appointed her Undersecretary of Tourism for Promotions. This, on top of her being the president of Citem, (a position she has held since Citem's beginnings in the Marcos days) and head of the Philippine Convention and Visitors Corporation. She also hosts a Sunday (1 to 2 pm) TV Show Export: Made in the Philippines which is the only one of its kind and for which she receives no valet fee. Travels? Plenty of them.

So how does she pack it all in? She enjoys her work. "When the time comes that I no longer enjoy and derive satisfaction, that means I have to move on to something else." She says this as she rummages through the ubiquitous basket that is ever by her side, even during long-gown affairs. The basket holds a hundred and one things. She fishes out a headache pill and makes

known the throbbing in her head. She smiles and mentions two or three tourism-related meetings scheduled for that afternoon. It means, can we resume conversation another time?

A bland and calculating government bureaucrat she is not. Mina has a down-home style in dealing with people. "Titles don't matter to me," she quips. "I could be talking to ordinary people or people in very high positions and they are all the same to me. Remember I used to have my own company where I had to deal with all kinds of people."

Her Sunday TV show is in fact about people, too. It showcases non-traditional export products — from lumpia wrappers and banana leaves to Christmas decor, baby dresses and furniture — but Mina always also focuses on the people behind the products. It's like she wants to say — "Look, they did it, you can, too." The show features unlikely people making unlikely products.

Her show is in fact interesting not only to exporters and would-be exporters, but also to those who simply want to be entertained. One time she guested several young people (in their early twenties) who were exporting frogskins, wood carvings and quilts!

"And where is your office?" Mina would usually ask young exporters. Almost always they would say they're operating from their parent's home or garage and that they're using the family phone and the family car to push the business. "Aha!" Mina would exclaim and then wonder aloud about the resourcefulness of young people these days.

A few weeks ago Mina featured a young lady, fresh from college, who had put up her own international cargo handling company. Some episodes would have Mina walking through an antique shop dripping with opulence, other times she would be in a steamy factory for banana chips. During live shows she'd be surrounded by her guests' creations — bags, food preserves, home furnishings, clothing and accessories, baskets, baskets and baskets — all going to foreign lands. How she revels in all this show of Filipino creativity.

But who is Mina, what is she?

Her name rang a bell even then, people who hear her name now say. Or, her face is very

familiar, like she's always been into something.

In her younger days Mina was already in the public eye. She did some modeling, she hosted a TV show for kids for a while, she did some writing, she was into fashion (Mina Gabor label), then into exports. She even worked for the United Nations as consultant.

People — she knew a lot of them. She went to out-of-the-way places. She was one of the first to set up a buying office. She was familiar with all kinds of exportables "except the industrial ones."

In 1983, Mina was recruited to head the newly created Citem, a government trade promotions agency under the Department of Trade and Industry. (After four months on the job she launched the first market week which carried garments). This meant goodbye to her family enterprise and going into public life.

Citem is located at the CCP complex near the Buendia junction. Its exhibit halls permanently showcase Philippine products classified into apparel (garments and textiles, fashion accessories, footwear and leather goods), industrial goods, gifts, toys and houseware, furniture and furnishings, food and plants.

Meeting facilities are available for buyers and manufacturers. Citem facilitates purchases and contact with suppliers. It also helps in upgrading products.

Citem also has a showcase at the international airport.

Even with the fall of the Marcos dictatorship and the coming to power of the Aquino government, Mina stayed on, although somewhat expecting to go any time.

"Last year I was thinking of leaving government," Mina says thoughtfully. And then President Aquino called for her to also join the Department of Tourism's promotions programme. This, to Mina, was some kind of assurance that her services were appreciated. "I was happy but the appointment also meant I had to work even harder." The President brought her along during her USS State visit in October last year. Mina was to help push the Philippines' non-traditional export products.

She dismisses detractors who have said the President had gone down to the level of a "promo girl" during the US State Visit. Mina would rather get excited



Mina Gabor pushed the Golden Shell awards for exporters: slave and slave drivers

over the fact that in May, J.C. Penny's 1,047 stores will be showcasing Philippine products worth some \$33 million.

Mina means projects, projects, projects. Her peak — 56 projects in 52 weeks of the year. Projects consist of market weeks, setting up committees for product selection, trade fairs, seminars for exporters, and so many others.

Mina's public life intrudes even into her private life. "I always have a notebook and pen besides my bed. When I have ideas I get up and write them down so I don't forget."

No very long ago Mina sort of buckled down under the pressures of work. "I almost died. My blood pressure shot up and I lost consciousness." Every now and then Mina has to reach for her basket for a pill or two.

There have been work-related emotional lows too but she'd rather not dwell on them. All she will say is that one time it was so bad even her husband Joe was affected and she had to down a tranquilizer. "I slept through it like a baby and when I woke up in the morning there was Joe still pacing beside me, so distraught, saying, 'Of all people, why does it have to be you they'd do this to?' He hadn't slept a wink and I felt so sorry for him."

Mina describes her husband as "very supportive" of everything she does. "I first check out my ideas with him. He keeps my feet on the ground. Of course, we also disagree a lot. But he listens and when there are problems, he tells me, 'It's not as bad as you think.'

Citem has product consultants who are foreigners to advise Filipino suppliers about market requirements abroad.

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LEGASPI CITY: Brig. Gen. Marino Filart, Bicol PC-INP chief, has filed a P4-million libel suit against Sen. Ernesto Maceda with the office of the city prosecutor.

The libel case arose from a news report headlined "That's why PC brass were left out of national police — Maceda."

In his two-page complaint filed with the office of City Prosecutor Vicente Paras, Filart stated that Maceda was quoted as saying "the Senate deliberately excluded PC generals from the proposed Philippine National Police mainly because of their illegal activities."

Witnesses told probers that the killers pumped in bullets into Dimaano even as he lay mortally wounded by the first shot fired by one of them.

BINONDO: A young businessman engaged in selling of ladies wrist watches was found dead in his room in a Binondo condominium on Asuncion St., Binondo.

The complaint said Maceda was also quoted as saying "the PNPs should be spared from graft and corruption." He was obviously referring to the PC generals as grafters, Filart said.

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MANILA: Councilor Nestor C. Ponce, Jr. (LP, second district) assailed yesterday the proliferation of motels, beerhouses, fun and game houses near schools in violation of existing city ordinances.

Ponce said that city ordinances prohibit the operation of motels, and other fun houses within 200 meters from schools, church and public buildings.

He called on city hall officials to close the motels, beer houses and other fun houses near schools violating city ordinances.

Witnesses told police that Tan and the assailant had a heated argument inside the room. They later heard the victim screaming. They later saw the attacker hurriedly leaving the room.

Meanwhile, two female pushers from Isabela were arrested by a special team of the WPD theft and robbery section during a routine check on C.M. Recto Ave. in Tondo, Manila.

Capt. Nilo Jambalos, chief of the section, identified the two suspects as Lydia Cardo, 42, and Nena Tuclin, 40, both of Alicia, Isabela. Police seized from them two cartons of dried marijuana leaves worth P500,000.

The two said they bought the prohibited leaves in Isabela and were about to deliver to a certain "Roy Sanchez" in Pasay City.

MARIKINA: Two persons were killed while 18 others were hurt in two vehicular accidents in Marikina, Metro Manila.

Police identified the fatalities as Raymond Vergara, one year old; and Bridget Lastimosa of Montalban, Rizal.

In the first incident, a cargo truck bearing license plate PBB 706 lost its break, causing a four-vehicle collision.

Reports reaching the police said that the cargo truck bumped a Lancer car, a taxi cab, a delivery truck and a dump truck when it went out of control.

The delivery truck with plate number PLD-318 plowed through the nearby shanties, killing Vergara and injuring several others.

Among those injured were as Fortunata Agudo, 21; Juana Valejo, 26; Renato Vallejo, 8; Michael Vergara, 33; Reyco Lusong, 23; Ana Patron, 23; Anabel Patron, one-year-old; Jose Aligue, 19; and Anthony Alisara, 2.

They were taken to the Quirino Memorial Hospital in Quezon City for treatment.

The drivers of the dump truck and the delivery truck escaped after the incident.

Several hours later, Lastimosa was killed when she, along with her four-year-old daughter, Janice, and her mother, Maria, 69, were hit by an Isuzu dump truck along J. Rizal corner Lapu-Lapu St. in Concepcion, Marikina.

All of them were rushed to the E. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital. Two of them survived.

Juanito Rada, driver of the dump truck, said that he accidentally hit three while crossing the street early yesterday morning.

Rada is now detained at the Marikina police headquarters facing homicide thru reckless imprudence.

MANILA: Manila Mayor Gemiliano C. Lopez Jr. has approved an ordinance prohibiting cargo/hauler trucks, including garbage trucks, from passing city streets without "protective covers."

This was learned from Councilor Flaviano P. Concepcion Jr., main author of the measure now known as City Ordinance No. 7721.

Concepcion said the new law will take effect on Feb. 4, one month after its approval by Mayor Lopez who signed

Miss Saigon in Europe

By Recah Trinidad

JAIME SEBASTIAN of the Philippines, the strongest man in Southeast Asia, lives in a country with one of the weakest economies in the region.

Isn't that odd?

The reigning super superheavyweight weighing champion in the Southeast Asian Games can hardly afford his breakfast.

That makes him a sporting oddity.

Or, because he happens to be the finest iron pumper this side of the globe, Sebastian could readily be tagged (excuse the pun) as Mr Irony. But don't laugh now.

Sebastian, 33, five-foot-nine, a full 270 pounds, baby-faced and with the charm of a gentle giant, eats a breakfast enough to feed two families.

His regular morning pre-workout consists of at least a dozen fresh eggs, two liters of fresh fruit juice, a loaf of bread, some butter, please.

And his monthly salary as a master sergeant in the Philippine Air Force department of special services?

"My basic pay," explains Jimmy wanly as he wipes sweat off his mountain of a shoulder, "is P2,350. Plus a little allowance. I get a total of P4,000 a month."

And his food expenses alone, not to mention those for house

kilos of lean meat, eight potatoes, rice and salad. If there's no meat available he reluctantly settles for at least two chickens — a poor substitute, he says.

The champ sort of slows down and takes a light dinner: three medium-sized fish, three potatoes, milk, no rice.

Doing some impromptu accounting, Jimmy says his breakfast, compulsory vitamins, lunch and dinner, excluding that of his wife, a physical education teacher at the Colegio San Agustin in Makati, runs up to a little over P250 a day, medyo tipid pa. All in all, these add up to something like P5,000 a month.

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rent, clothing, and other necessities, total P5,000!

Jimmy, still childless, is a big loser any way you read his computation. But he's taking everything with a shrug of his powerful shoulders. There's no backing out at the moment. He has been winning the gold medals as a super superheavy weight in the Southeast Asian Games since 1977 and, much as he had tried, he cannot see his possible successor at the moment. Or for the next five years to come.

Now, doesn't that project him as a super sucker, a sort of native Hercules patiently pushing back the sky, because nobody else is capable of perpetuating the godly act?

Jimmy promises to hold on, ward off the ever-growing threat of power lifters from Burma, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia, for as long as he can.

"It's a heroic gesture, to say the least, for the one-time football aspirant from Zamboanga who was forced off the playing turf after his doctors discovered

he was suffering from a rheumatic heart, aggravated by dizziness and fainting spells.

He doesn't say it, but his selfless dedication to weightlifting could be his way of saying thank you to the sport that saved his life and turned him into a modestly celebrated macho machine. Warned never, never to try any strenuous activity, Jimmy, only 17, sneaked out and started working out in a weightlifting gym upon the advice of his uncle, sportsman Fabian Bucay.

Jimmy worked tentatively, lifting light loads, no more than 70 pounds, mainly meant for progressive resistance training (PRT). He did this for one whole month. He next visited his doctor who, upon diagnosing that the rheumatic heart had healed, told Jimmy he should be thankful that he followed instructions and did not do any physical training.

Amused, Jimmy had to make a real effort not to laugh. He walked quietly out of the clinic straight back into the gym. He has never ceased to pump weights since.

Suratos, who is also deputy commander of the Philippine Fleet, cited the experience of Argentina under Juan Peron where on coup succeeded another attempt for years. "And because of the situation, that nation still suffers at present," he said.

He appealed to his officers and men, including the civilians, to always maintain high degree of professionalism "so they can always protect their sworn duties of protecting the Filipino people and the country."

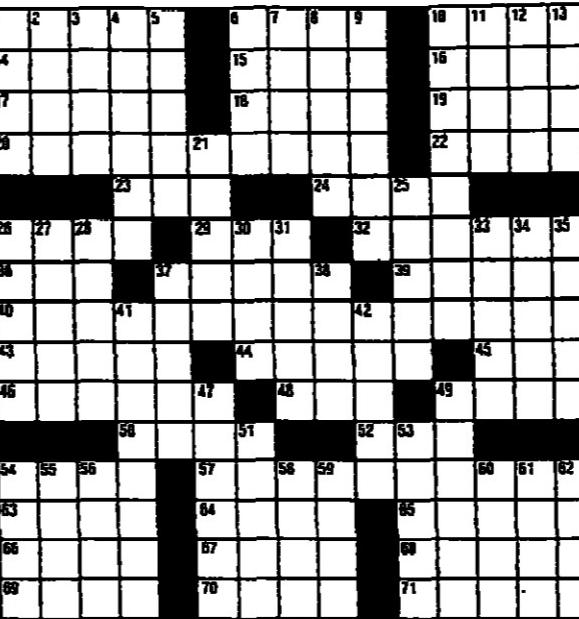
QUEZON CITY: Four gunmen claiming to be members of the New People's Army (NPA) liquidation team shot to death a contract worker apparently mistaken for a Quezon City barangay chairman marked for assassination by communist "hit men."

Police identified the victim as Wilfredo Dimaano, 38, of 42 Ubudan St., barangay Manresa, QC. He suffered bullet wounds at the back of the head, nape, and left side of the body.

Probers said Dimaano, a contract worker who is on vacation, was mistaken by his assailants as barangay

panahon pa' ni Mike Keon," Jimmy assesses the rusty, battered weights loosely latched onto a shaky stand.

In a way, Jimmy is saying that Philippine sports cannot afford itself. And

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**WERNER THE HORRIBLE****MARGATHA CRUM****BEETLEBAIT****THUNDERBIRD****ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shultz**TODAY'S CROSSWORD****GOREN BRIDGE****BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF****GIVE THE ENEMY A HELPING HAND**

Neither vulnerable. South deals. anded hand and, hence, no ruffing value, the consensus is to forge probing for a 4-4 major fit in favor of the value bid, although not all players agree with that approach.

This hand is from a pair tournament. Some declarers won the ace of clubs and, since they needed a second club trick to make the contract, returned the suit. When East showed out on the second round, West shifted to the jack of spades and the defenders were a tempo ahead. They had to come to two spade tricks and three club tricks before declarer could rene in nine.

The bidding: West 1 NT Pass North 3 NT Pass East Pass

The opening lead: King of ♦

When you speak of a falsecard, many players look for something dramatic, such as dropping a guarded king under an ace to induce a shift. Those plays turn up infrequently, and are often missed at the table. But there is a whole gamut of deceptive maneuvers that occur frequently, and are so simple they often sneak by unnoticed.

Note North's jump to three no trump despite possession of a four-card major. With a perfectly bal-

anced hand and, hence, no ruffing value, the consensus is to forge probing for a 4-4 major fit in favor of the value bid, although not all players agree with that approach.

This hand is from a pair tournament. Some declarers won the ace of clubs and, since they needed a second club trick to make the contract, returned the suit. When East showed out on the second round, West shifted to the jack of spades and the defenders were a tempo ahead. They had to come to two spade tricks and three club tricks before declarer could rene in nine.

Other Souths followed with the deuce of clubs to the first trick. Some Wests continued clubs to allow declarer to get home; most shifted to a spade for down one.

One small group of declarers fulfilled the contract in every case. These were those who played the seven of clubs to the first trick, concealing their two lower clubs. Each West presumed that East's eight of clubs was a come-on signal, so they never even considered a spade switch. The club continuation was taken with the ace and a club back put declarer ahead in the race to establish tricks.

ACROSS

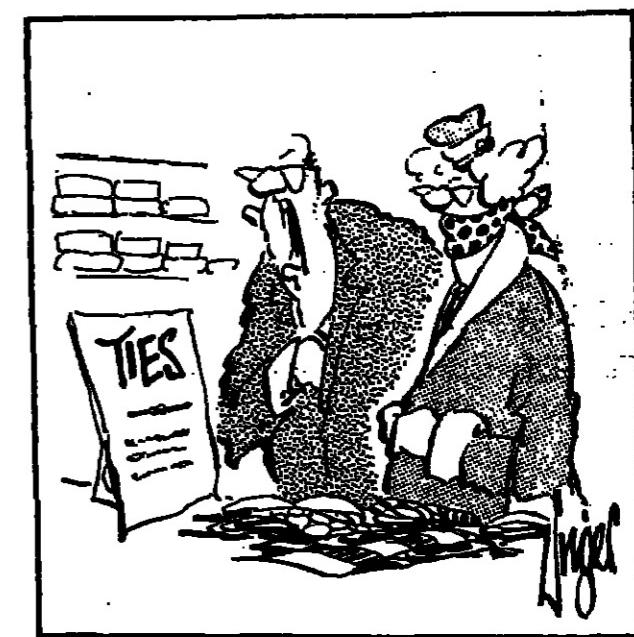
- 1 Puccini opera, with "La"
- 2 Wire measures
- 10 School founded by Henry VI
- 14 Sacrifice Adams
- 15 Singer Adams
- 16 FDR's coin
- 17 Property claims
- 18 Guinness
- 19 Fixed quantity
- 20 School for an aggie
- 21 Persians
- 22 Chemical suffix
- 24 Novelist Ferber
- 26 Of a historic time
- 29 Roll of fins
- 32 Gobbles down compliments
- 36 Hammarkjold
- 37 Lobsters
- 39 Fishing net
- 40 57 Across, in a way
- 43 Otherworldly
- 44 Fictional form
- 45 Needlefish
- 46 Affectionately
- 47 Teleost fish
- 49 Franklin and namesakes
- 50 Belongings
- 52 Important article
- 54 Crache figures
- 57 Stamping ground for professors
- 63 — corner
- 64 Nebraska Indian
- 65 Lapel grabbers
- 66 Type of skirt
- 67 Medium for Velázquez
- 68 Give the valedictory
- 69 Code or rug
- 70 Food fish
- 71 Granda gentelman

DOWN

- 1 Body powder
- 2 Medley
- 3 Hearty dish
- 4 Undo
- 5 Pyromaniac's felony
- 6 Restaurant offering
- 7 Loiter
- 8 Historic city on the Meuse
- 9 Withdraw formally
- 10 — guess
- 11 Turner or Louise
- 12 Overlook
- 13 New Jersey five
- 21 Shar or Jerry
- 25 Twangy
- 26 Barely beat, with "out"
- 27 Street show
- 28 Greek marketplace
- 30 Before long
- 31 "Robinson Crusoe" author
- 33 — Perilous (Round Table seat)
- 34 Deprive of self-confidence
- 35 Equals
- 37 "The Old Wives' Tale" author
- 38 Reliever's assignment
- 41 "Old Dominion" State
- 42 Highland Scots, e.g.
- 47 "Gulliver's Travels" creatures
- 49 Ere
- 51 Proportion
- 53 Vagabonds
- 54 "I Remember"
- 55 Moslem prince
- 56 Hackman or Wilder
- 58 Lounge about
- 60 — majestic
- 61 Mideast land
- 62 Presidential prerogative
- 62 North Sea feeder

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SPEW	OCTAVO	CCC
PARR	SLATER	AHA
ALAE	SATIRE	RIM
PLATINUM	BLONDE	DE
TRAM	MEA	PEEL
NOTHING	LIPS	
OLIMEC	ADELA	ASS
LEAD	KINDLY	LIGHT
ION	ESTEE	ANNIE
EDO	CATNIPPS	
OLIES	TSK	MAO
LONG	JONAH	SILVER
ERS	OPIA	AVOW
ICE	SERVAL	TILE
CAL	ESKERS	ELEE

**"How much?"****ZODIAC****Aries**

March 21 - April 19

**Cancer**

June 21 - July 20

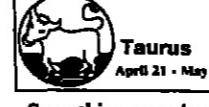
**Libra**

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

**Capricorn**

Dec. 21 - Jan. 19

Nothing will be quite as it seems to be. For that reason, too, keep your eyes and ears wide open. You would be wrong to engage in any kind of adventure involving a married party. Be less extravagant.

**Taurus**

April 21 - May 20

Something you have not been able to do for some time will now once again become possible. Try to avoid making noise or exposing yourself to it. Do not inhibit your emotions nor allow them quite free rein. Be considerate.

**Leo**

July 23 - Aug. 22

Avoid making up your mind on the spur of the moment, but nor should you avoid making up your mind at all. Mistakes are more likely so be on the lookout for them. Take the best possible care of your health. Be fair.

**Gemini**

May 21 - June 20

You will be able to find a better way of dealing with an abiding problem. However, plenty enough difficulties remain and you should not try to gloss over them. Do not place too much reliance on your memory, make notes. Be sensible.

**Virgo**

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Something you had been awaiting will now arrive, but it will not come up to expectations. Your lucky numbers are 17 and 34. Take the opportunity to show your children a good example. Avoid going to extremes or exaggerating. Be objective.

**Sagittarius**

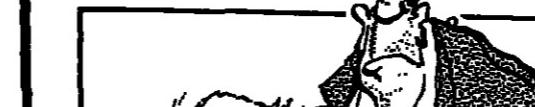
Nov. 23 - Dec. 22

You would do well to drink a little more sparingly and to smoke less heavily. And if you do neither are you sure you have no other bad habit? Take a little more interest in what interests your partner. Be moderate.

**Pisces**

Feb. 19 - March 20

Not everything will be to your liking, but do make the best of what is. And do remember that virtually nothing is ever quite ideal. Avoid doing the first thing and that comes to mind, think about it first. Be moderate.

**Aquarius**

Jan. 20 - Feb. 19

If you are going to an interview or conference make sure you are properly prepared: no need to get flustered. You should make sure you do not place too much reliance on gossip or rumour. Take better care of your appearance.

**Taurus**

May 21 - June 20

Something you had been awaiting will now arrive, but it will not come up to expectations. Your lucky numbers are 17 and 34. Take the opportunity to show your children a good example. Avoid going to extremes or exaggerating. Be objective.

**Leo**

July 23 - Aug. 22

Take the best possible care of your health. Be fair.

**Virgo**

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

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**Sagittarius**

Nov. 23 - Dec. 22

Take the best possible care of your health. Be fair.

Pisces

Feb. 19 - March 20

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Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

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Nov. 23 - Dec. 22

Take the best possible care of your health. Be fair.

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KUWAIT City, Al Sour Street. Spacious room with water, electricity and kitchen facilities for a Goan couple or small family. Rent: KD80. Tele. Joaquim, 4815850, 4819214. (AT1-51447-3)

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APPLE IIC, brand new, green monitor, 5 1/4 disk drive, TV modulator & original software, Apple Works. Tele. 5656962. (AT1-51379-3)

IBM PC-XT computer, 256KB RAM memory, EGA card, Samsung EGA monochrome monitor, 2-floppy disk drives, for KD200 only. Tel: 2407866. (AT2-51469-3)

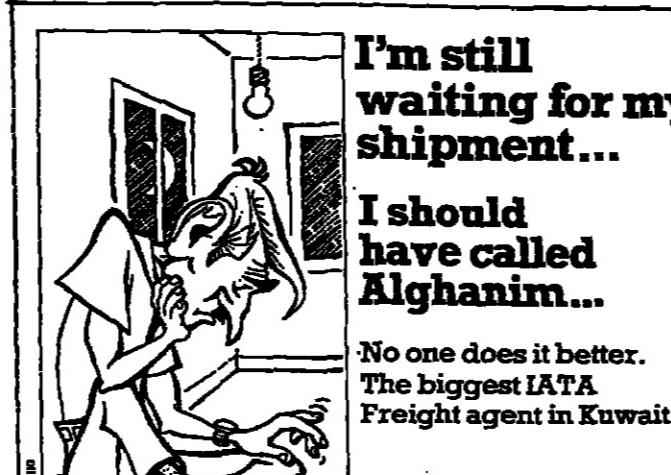
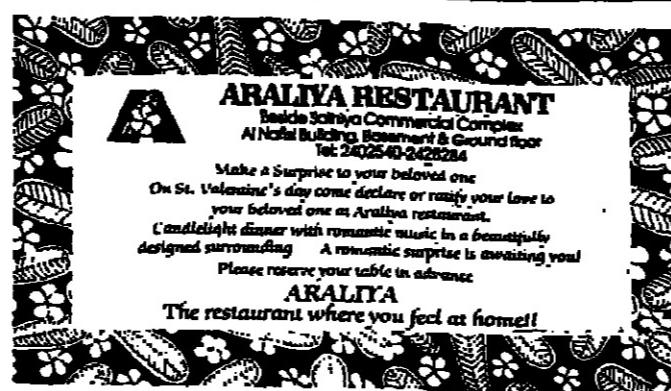
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MAZDA 323, 1983 model, manual gear, in good condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. 4813140, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT2-51455-3)

MAZDA Sport LX 929, 84 model, manual gear, insured up to 24.10.1990, in good condition. KD800. Tele. 9020287. (AT2-51471-3)

MERCEDES 230 E 1985 white, automatic, low mileage, in excellent condition. Tele. 5659471. (AT1-51453-2)

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SPORTS BRIEFS

E. German athletes

EAST BERLIN, Feb 10, (Reuter): East Germany's world-beating athletes will wear kit emblazoned with advertising slogans for the first time when they compete at a six-country indoor event in Paris.

Stadler leads

HONOLULU, Hawaii, Feb 10, (Reuter): Craig Stadler shot a five-under par 67 and moved into the lead at halfway mark of the \$1 million Hawaiian Open golf tournament with a total of six-under par 138 yesterday.

Calamati wins

ZARAGOZA, Spain, Feb 10, (Reuter): Italy's Efrén Calamati retained his European light welterweight title when he defeated Carlos Sole of Spain on points today in this northern Spanish city.

French team

AGEN, France, Feb 10, (Reuter): French Rugby Union selector Jean-Pierre Bastiat called yesterday for captain Pierre Berbezier and fullback Serge Blanco to be axed from the French side.

Belgian tourney

MILAN, Italy, Feb 10, (AP): ATP officials in Milan announced yesterday that Carls Uwe Steeb of West Germany and Emilio Sanchez of Spain will substitute for Stefan Edberg and Jimmy Connors in the Belgian Indoor Championship that begins in Brussels on Monday.

Fight postponed

MARACAY, Venezuela, Feb 10, (Reuter): Venezuelan boxer Jesus 'Kiki' Rojas has postponed his first World Boxing Association (WBA) flyweight title defence against South Korean Lee Yul-Woo until March 10, the WBA said yesterday.

Injury jinx

CINCINNATI, Feb 10, (AP): Welterweight boxer Tommy Ayers is running into an injury jinx as he tries to mount a ring comeback from prison. Ayers strained ligaments in his left hand, forcing the cancellation of his Feb 20 fight with Glen Brown for the US Boxing Association welterweight championship.

Berger upset

GUARUJA, Brazil, Feb 10, (AP): Argentine Eduardo Bergeracha stunned top-seed Jay Berger of the United States with a 7-5, 6-0 victory yesterday in the \$150,000 Chevrolet Classic tennis tournament.

Ajax defeated

AMSTERDAM, Feb 10, (Reuter): Ajax Amsterdam's recent League resurgence was halted yesterday by a 1-0 defeat at mid-table MVV Maastricht.

Colombian team

BOGOTA, Feb 10, (Reuter): Colombia's national soccer team will resume training for the World Cup, lifting a suspension imposed earlier this week after death threats from an anti-drug group seeking to 'cleanse' domestic soccer, the team trainer said yesterday.

All-seater stadium

COPENHAGEN, Feb 10, (Reuter): Denmark is to get a new national soccer stadium in Copenhagen, the country's first all-seater ground, by the summer of 1992. The 46,500-seat stadium is to be built on the site of the present ground by a financial services company who will also put up three office buildings on the land to finance the 400 million crown (\$60 million) project.

Tauzat triumphs

WICHITA, Kansas, Feb 10, (AP): No. 1 seed Nathalie Tauzat of France advanced to the semifinal round yesterday with a quarterfinal victory over Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands in a \$150,000 Breyers Tennis Classic.

Czech triumphs

GSTAAD, Switzerland, Feb 10, (AP): Frantisek Jez of Czechoslovakia posted leaps of 80 and 85 meters (262 and 278 feet) yesterday to win a World Cup ski jumping meet.

Doping charges

WEST BERLIN, Feb 10, (AP): The doctor of East Germany's bobsled team yesterday denied allegations that star driver Wolfgang Hoppe and other team members regularly took anabolic steroids. Dr Wolfgang Schaefer said in an interview with the West German sports news agency SID that the allegations were "malicious accusations."

Romanian gets \$100,000 bonus

Melinte breaks record

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J., Feb 10, (Reuter): Doina Melinte shot a five-under par 67 and moved into the lead at halfway mark of the \$1 million Hawaiian Open golf tournament with a total of six-under par 138 yesterday.

Melinte, breathing down the neck of pace-setter Brit Linda Peterson of Canada for the first

half-mile, responded to the cheers of a crowd of 12,161 by finishing in four minutes, 17.13 seconds — more than a second and a half better than the 4:18.86 mark she set here two years ago.

Melinte, who said she was in good shape because of preparations for the European Championships, said political changes in her homeland would allow her to keep her winnings instead of just a small share.

American Alisa Harvey finished second to Melinte more than 13 seconds behind, with Soviet Svetlana Kitova taking third.

Peter Elliott of Britain came up a bit short in his pursuit of a mile record and a matching \$100,000 bonus.

The new 1,500 metres Commonwealth champion from Britain finished in 3:52.02 to win the race over Irishman Marcus O'Sullivan, who trailed far behind in 3:58.44.

Ireland's Eamonn Coghlan set the mile mark of 3:49.78 seven years ago on the fast, steeply-banked Meadowlands track.

A \$50,000 bonus for an indoor best in the 600 yards also went unclaimed in a clash-marred, four-man race won by sole survivor Butch Reynolds in 1:10.36 seconds — nearly three seconds off the 1970 mark set by Martin McGarry.

Antonia McKay and Ian Morris crashed after colliding on the first turn of the last lap and Danny Harris, the apparent winner, was later disqualified for causing McKay's fall.

While Kingdom ended one streak, Lavonna Martin extended her own as she beat double Olympic champion Jackie Joyner-Kersee in the women's 55-metre hurdles for the third straight time this indoor season.

Martin, twice a US national collegiate champion and a Pan Am Games gold medallist, clocked 7.45 to overtake Joyner-Kersee, who timed 7.51 along with Kim McKenzie.

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SPORTS

KPBL gets underway on Feb 16

THE Kuwait Pinoy Basketball League (KPBL), which was due to start on December 1, 1989, will finally get under way on Friday, February 16, at 8.30 am at the Kefan High School Gymnasium, Kefan.

In a meeting on Thursday, at the Mabuhay Restaurant, the KPBL secretaries confirmed that the permit for the playing venue has been obtained with much assistance from people who truly love the sport.

Present during the meeting were members of the "KPBL" board of governors who helped in finalizing the details of the opening day ceremonies.

The final list of the (10) participating teams is as follows:

Al Ghanim Freight & Travel, Kay & Associates, KDD-Kuwait Danish Dairy, KHC-Kuwait Hotel Co., KRC-Kuwait Regency Palace, LOTTE Al Sarraf Travels, Misra Al Baitan, Overland Transport Co., Trico International Door To Door.

The opening day ceremonies will include among others a "single/one day championship," a first of its kind to be held in the entire history of Filipino basketball here in Kuwait. All the (10) participating teams have agreed to take part in this unique event, which was designed to let each and everyone have a sneak-preview of the things to come in the tournament proper which incidentally starts on Feb 22.

At stake for this one-day championship are the following awards to be given right after the conclusion of the final matches of the day:

1. Champion Trophy, 2. First Runner Up's Trophy, 3. Second Runner Up's Trophy, 4. MVP-Most Valuable Player Of The Day, 5. Best Uniform trophy.

The event will also be highlighted by the selection of "Miss KPBL," the most charming from among the misses of the participating teams. As an added innovation of the League, the organizers have decided to recognize the most outstanding player in each match by naming him "The Mabuhay Best Player of the Game." As such, he will be entitled to a Gift Certificate, courtesy of Madame Florence Delos Santos, manager/owner of the Mabuhay Restaurant and Saloon.

A confirmation meeting is scheduled for today, at 8.00 pm in the Mabuhay Restaurant. The organizers would like to remind all the participating teams to send their representatives to the board of governors, along with the other requirements for the said meeting.

Door prizes will also be given away to lucky "season pass" holders. The passes are available from all KPBL offices and at the gate.

All individuals, who may wish to act as "referees" are invited to call 5615329 & 243909/2434630 for more details.

Jazah

Ijaz hammers unbeaten century

Pakistan thrash Sri Lanka



Ijaz needed only 98 balls for ton

including two sixes.

The Sri Lankans could not exert the same pressure on the Pakistani batting, due mainly to the absence of frontline pacemen Ravi Ratnayake and Graeme Labrooy. They were further handicapped when Champaka Ranatunga broke down after 52 overs.

Ramush Ratnayake cracked 31 off 27 balls and Aravinda de Silva lashed 32 off 21 balls

have our main strike bowlers."

Ijaz's match-winning century was his second in 65 international limited-overs matches. His first was an unbeaten 124 against Bangladesh at Chittagong in 1988.

Sri Lanka scored 90 runs off the final 10 overs, with Ramush Ratnayake (31 off 27 balls) and Aravinda de Silva (32 off 21 balls including two sixes) keeping the momentum going.

Pakistan, however, was equal to the task.

It posted its 100 in just 86 minutes off 19.5 overs, 48 balls and nearly 30 minutes faster than Sri Lanka.

Salim Yousuf (52), Jayed Miandad (39) and Ijaz provided the mainstays of the innings, but it was paceman Wasim Akram (three not out) who brought up the winning run, edging Nirantha Ratnayake to third man for a single.

Scoreboard

SRI LANKA

A. Samarasekera c Ijaz b Aqib 10

H. Tilkeratne c Ijaz b Mustaq 61

G. Gurusingha c Yousuf b 51

Mushaq 58

R. Ratnayake c Tauseef 31

A. Aravinda de Silva c Waqar 14

Tauseef 253

Fall of wickets: 1-25 2-163 3-191

4-263 5-251

Total (for five wickets, Innings closed): 323

Fall of wicket: 1-25 2-114 3-183

4-228 5-251

Did not bat: Tauseef Ahmed, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Asoka de Silva, Rameez Raja & Gurusingha b

R. Rainayake 15

Wasim Akram not out 3

Extras (lb-7 w-8 nb-1) 17

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Top three goal for Al Thani

DHAKA: Sheikh Hamad Ali Jabor Al Thani aims to fly Dubai Victory into the top three in the world's longest air race when the 1,200-mile third stage gets underway early today.

The Emirates-sponsored Cessna 310 was just over ten minutes behind its identical rival, the French aircraft Mimpower, on the second stage from Bahrain to Dhaka and Sheikh Hamad is hoping to catch third place on today's leg to Langkawi in Malaysia.

The Qatari pilot hopes to complete the non-stop flight across the Bay of Bengal in less than six and half hours.

"Our immediate goal is to pick up those two minutes on Mimpower," he said. "We won't be refuelling on this leg so it's a straight fight between us and them. Whoever makes the best use of the winds and their machine will come out on top."

The 12 survivors in the Paris-Langkawi-Pakis International Air Race have already flown more than 5,000 miles and for more than 20 hours across three time zones to reach Dhaka. But after crossing mountains and desert, today the dozen light aircraft must fly entirely over sea to reach the half-way point in Langkawi.

"The third stage is unusual because it's almost all over water," added Sheikh Hamad. "We will be touching Burma and flying on through Thai airspace."

"We have already beaten three turboprop and another piston-engined plane on the way from Bahrain. We did well then and, with a little luck, can improve on this third stage."

Realistically, Dubai Victory has no chance of winning the race overall after an emergency landing on day one. But a stage win is possible for the aircraft which won the last major international air race from Paris to Peking in 1987.

Leading the piston-engined section after two legs is Falcon of Jordan. Just over three hours behind in second place is Mimpower, with the Belgian entry Azura a further 12 minutes adrift in third place.

"After just three hours sleep in Bahrain and a ten-hour flight to Dhaka, we were exhausted," said Dubai Victory's Saudi Arabian co-pilot Mohammed Al Amri.

Liverpool held to draw

Villa cut Reds' lead



Glenn Hysen

visiting Queens Park Rangers 2-0, Crystal Palace scored a 3-1 victory over Southampton, and Wimbledon played to a 1-1 tie at Manchester City.

In the Second Division, the top three teams — Leeds, Sheffield United and Swindon — all won. Leeds scored a 4-3 home victory over Hull, while Sheffield United won 1-0 at home over Plymouth and Swindon won 1-0 at Barnsley.

■ First Division Everton's English Soccer League match was given the all-clear by police today after a large German World War Two bomb was found half a mile (800 metres) from the Goodison Park stadium.

Police had considered delaying the kick-off against Charlton to allow fans time to reach the stadium after the 2,200 pound (1,000 kg) bomb was unearthed on a main route to the ground.

"This is a big bomb and it cannot just be detonated ... it

would blow up half of that part of Liverpool," an Army spokesman said. Police said 100 residents were evacuated.

Results

English Division One	
Aston Villa	1 Sheffield Wed
Chelsea	1 Southampton
Crystal P	3 West Bromwich
Derby	2 Middlesbrough
Everton	1 Charlton
Manchester C	1 Wimbledon
Millwall	1 Manchester U
Norwich	0 Liverpool
Postponed: Arsenal v Nottingham Forest, Luton v Coventry	
English Division Two	
Bournemouth	6 Middlesbrough
Bury	4 Hull
Leicester	1 Bradford
Oldham	2 Stoke
Oxford	0 West Bromwich
Port Vale	0 Watford
Plymouth	1 Newcastle
Sheffield U	0 Plymouth
Sunderland	0 Birmingham
West Ham	3 Brighton
Wolves	2 Ipswich
English Division Three	
Bolton	0 Rotherham
Brentford	2 Huddersfield
Bristol City	1 Cardiff
Carsley	2 Blackpool
Notts County	0 Chester
Shrewsbury vs Northampton postponed	
Swansea	4 Fulham
Walsall	1 Reading
Wigan	0 Leyton
Played Friday:	
Tranmere	5 Birmingham
English Division Four	
Aldershot	0 Chesterfield
Burnley	1 Gillingham
Cambridge	3 Exeter
Carlisle	1 Halifax
Colchester	1 Rochdale
Doncaster	1 Scarborough
Hartlepool	3 Stockport
Middlesbrough	2 Grimsby
Nottingham	0 Peterborough
Wrexham	0 Hereford
York	0 Lincoln
Postponed: Torquay vs Southend	
Scottish Premier Division	
Celtic	1 Hibernian
Dundee U	1 Aberdeen
Hearts	0 Dunfermline
Motherwell	1 Rangers
St Mirren	0 Dundee
Scottish Division One	
Airdrie	6 Ayr
Allas	1 Clyde
Clydebank	3 Forfar
Falkirk	1 St Johnstone
Meadowbank	1 Hamilton
Partick	0 Morton
Rainbow	3 Albion
Scottish Division Two	
Berwick	1 Stenhousemuir
Brechin	1 Cowdenbeath
East Fife	3 Queen's Park
EString	1 Arbroath
Kilmarnock	1 String postponed
Queen's S	1 Dumbarton
Stranraer	2 Monifieth

English and Scottish League soccer table after matches played today (tablets under played, wins, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points)	
Liverpool	26 14 8 5 50 26 50
Aston Villa	24 15 4 5 41 21 49
Arsenal	23 13 3 7 38 24 42
Notts Forest	24 11 6 3 37 24 39
Tottenham	23 10 4 2 31 39
Everton	22 9 5 2 30 31 39
Derby	24 10 5 2 31 23 35
Southampton	24 9 8 4 30 38 35
Chelsea	25 9 8 4 30 38 35
Norwich	24 10 4 10 21 31 34
Coventry	24 7 11 6 27 26 32
Wimbledon	24 9 12 6 28 29 30
QPR	24 8 12 6 28 29 30
Crystal P	25 8 12 6 28 29 30
Leeds	25 7 11 30 35 35
Manchester U	25 7 11 30 35 35
Charlton	26 6 8 12 36 36
Millwall	25 5 9 11 31 42 44
Luton	23 4 10 5 29 33 32
Charlton	24 3 7 14 19 36 36
English and Scottish Cup	
Leeds	20 17 7 5 52 32 58
Sheffield U	29 15 8 4 44 30 55
Swindon	29 14 7 5 33 40 49
Oldham	29 12 11 6 32 44 49
Wolver	29 12 9 5 36 36 45
Sunderland	29 11 11 7 43 44 43
Newcastle	28 11 10 7 49 38 43
Blackburn	29 10 12 6 32 44 43
Preston	27 11 8 5 39 39 41
West Ham	28 10 8 10 31 35 38
Bournemouth	28 9 11 6 32 44 43
Oxford	28 10 7 11 38 38 35
Leicester	27 9 8 11 39 46 35
West Bromwich	28 9 10 11 37 48 38
Watford	29 9 7 12 35 36 34
Middlesbrough	29 12 13 6 32 44 43
Peterborough	29 11 11 7 38 38 35
Plymouth	28 8 13 13 38 42 31
Hull	28 6 12 10 34 42 30
Bradford	29 6 12 11 31 41 39
Brighton	28 8 5 15 34 43 32
Barnsley	29 7 8 14 39 51 51
Stoke	29 4 11 23 47 23 23
Scottish Premier Division	
Rangers	26 16 6 3 37 14 38
Aberdeen	26 17 7 4 39 24 31
Hearts	26 9 6 8 45 31 30
Celtic	26 9 9 10 38 29 27
Motherwell	26 10 8 3 34 34 26
Dundee U	26 7 11 8 29 31 25
Dunfermline	26 9 6 11 36 36 24
Hibernian	26 7 8 11 23 32 22
St Mirren	26 8 6 12 22 40 22
Dundee	26 3 9 14 30 52 15

Standings

English and Scottish League soccer table after matches played today (tablets under played, wins, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points)

English

Division One

Division Two

Division Three

Division Four

Scottish

Division One

Division Two

Division Three

Division Four

Scottish

Division One

Division Two

Division Three

Division Four

Scottish

Division One

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Division Four

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Division Three

Division Four

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Division Two

Division Three

Division Four

Scottish

Division One

Division Two